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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR REPORT ON
LIVING IN NEW ZEALAND 1891-1914

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REPORT

ON

COST OF LIVING,

1891–1914.

Price, 1s.

WELLINGTON.
BY AUTHORITY: JOHN MACKAY, GOVERNMENT PRINTER.

1915.

REPORT

ON THE

COST OF LIVING IN NEW ZEALAND,

1891—1914,

Being an Inquiry into the Course of Retail Prices during the Period 1891–1914; with Monthly Tables showing Increases during War Period—July, 1914, to August, 1915.

Prepared under the Authority of the Government of New Zealand

by

MALCOLM FRASER,
Government Statistician, Wellington, N.Z.

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PREFACE.

Early in 1914 it was decided that the Statistical Office should undertake the systematic collection and record of variations in prices, wages, unemployment, &c. Attention was first directed to the question of prices, and it was intended that index numbers should be compiled covering wholesale and retail prices and import and export values. Steps have accordingly been taken to obtain accurate and reliable data in regard to these matters, and the investigation into retail prices is now complete as far as back years are concerned.

In view of the great public interest which has lately been focussed on the "cost of living" it was thought advisable to publish the results of the investigation into retail prices in a separate report, leaving wholesale prices and import and export values to be dealt with at a later period.

The main features of this report were published in the *Journal of the Department of Labour* for June and July. The report has, however, been carefully revised, and in many instances the discussion has been extended. The actual prices from which the index numbers have been compiled are published in appendices to the report. For the future the index numbers will be published quarterly in the *Labour Journal.*

I desire to thank those retailers who so kindly furnished the returns of prices, without which the investigation could not have been completed, and also those officers of the Labour Department whose assistance in the collection of the returns has been very helpful.

MALCOLM FRASER,
Government Statistician.

Wellington, 17th November, 1915.

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COST OF LIVING IN NEW ZEALAND.

An Inquiry into Retail Prices, 1891–1914.

CHAPTER I.—EXPLANATORY.

INTRODUCTION.

PERHAPS the most striking feature of modern economic organization is the immense importance of exchange, accompanied by division of labour in all its forms. The production of commodities for immediate consumption has been entirely superseded by production for exchange, and producer and consumer are separated widely. It is a matter of history that production for exchange was greatly facilitated, if not caused, by the introduction of a money economy and the consequent break-up of the old feudal and communal systems. The industrial revolution of the eighteenth century, with its enormous increase in productive power, and a great development of trade, carried the process a long step further, and the economic history of subsequent times is merely the story of the continuation of the processes then begun. The increased use of machinery in round-about processes of production; the improvements in transport and communications, linking up the whole world in one market; and the ever-increasing specialization of industry, national and local, by trades and processes, have resulted at once in a great increase of vendible commodities and in an unprecedented complexity of organization.

It has been well said that prices are the indicator of the economic machine, and as the machine has grown more complex the importance of prices has become more and more evident. It is the action of prices that guides the regulation of supply and demand. The margin of unprofitable production, the limit of consumption, the ratio of values of various commodities are expressed in terms of price, and indeed the whole economic structure of society is hinged upon the relation between commodities and currency.

Investigations into price-changes have been made from two different standpoints, which are themselves the outcome of increasing specialization. The best-known inquiries, such as those of Jevons, Sauerbeck, the *Economist*, and the Board of Trade, refer to wholesale prices and have as their main purpose the illustration of changes in the general level of prices, the problem thus being approached from the point of view of the producer.

But, especially since 1895–96, when prices began to rise all over the world, the opposite aspect of the question has come into prominence, the problem of the cost of living, or the influence of prices on the consumer. It is said that the "pinching shoe" of rising prices has been at the root of

much social discontent, especially since the variations in prices, so far as they affect the cost of living, are of particular individual concern. To the average man no subject is of greater interest than that which directly touches his pocket and modifies his spending-power. The question is all the more prominent just now since the abnormal conditions of war have sharply accentuated the general tendencies which were noticeable before.

This period from 1895 to the present time has seen almost universal recognition of the necessity for the accurate and scientific measurement of price-variations, especially as they affect the cost of living. The advancement of statistical method which made it possible to extract representative facts from huge masses of data, by scientific averaging and arrangement, has been specially important in this field of economics. In the absence of sufficient, or in the presence of incorrect, data, any discussion of the problem of the cost of living is apt to lead to erroneous assumptions, and no adequate remedy can ever be found without an accurate measurement of the course and extent of price-variations. It is now recognized that a proper understanding and analysis of the problem is a necessary precedent to any attempt at reconstruction, and in almost every country of the world it has become a regular part of the work of the statistical offices to analyse and measure the fluctuations of prices. It is not the function of the statistician to trace the causes or to suggest the remedies, but to ascertain the facts and present a correct measurement of the extent of the fluctuations from time to time.

It is interesting to notice that the first attention given to the subject of prices was from the point of view of the cost of living. Setting aside the contemporary attempts at rough proofs of changes in the values of money which have appeared from time to time, the histories of prices compiled by Arthur Young, Tooke, and later by Thorold Rogers, deal chiefly with prices of foodstuffs, such as corn, compared with wages. The nineteenth century brought not only division of industry, but a growth of scientific analysis, and it was in this century that the measurement of the purchasing-power of money by means of index numbers of wholesale prices took modern shape in the calculations made by Jevons about the middle of the century, following on some figures published by Newmarch. Since then there have been constant improvements in method and continuous extension of the field covered by such investigations. The first calculations dealt with only a few commodities; prices were unweighted and were obtained only once or twice during the year. Modern calculations embrace a far larger number of commodities, the prices of which are collected frequently, and averaged, and great care is taken to give each commodity its proper economic importance.

Index Numbers.

The measurement of changes in prices is a problem of the utmost complexity—a fact which accounts for the varying estimates of changes in the cost of living. Changes in prices are constant and rapid, and most various—there are many kinds of prices, and innumerable instances and grades of each kind. Since price is merely the value of any commodity expressed in terms of money, it follows that any changes in production of

particular commodities are immediately reflected in prices. The movements of particular prices are confused and contradictory.

But, on the other hand, there is always noticeable a general tendency, around which the particular prices may oscillate, but which is capable of being measured. This general tendency, which has been called "the purchasing-power of money," or "the general level of prices," arises mainly from the money factor in price. Professor Irving Fisher points out that while business men are at great pains to acquaint themselves with every change of production that may influence the price of commodities, they seem almost to forget that there is another factor, money, which has an important influence in fixing the price.

To measure changes in this "general level of prices" there has evolved the method of index numbers. It is obvious that the ideal measure would be a combination of the prices of all commodities weighted in proportion to the importance of each; but since such a course is obviously impossible recourse must be had to "sampling," taking typical commodities as representing all. The commodities selected should be typical, as far as is possible, of the various kinds of commodities in general use; prices are ascertained for each commodity and combined to form an index number, which is merely a statement proportional to prices ruling at some given time. For this given time, or base, prices have been collected and equated to 100 or to 1,000; all succeeding years or periods are then worked out proportionately, so that instead of a complicated series of prices there is given a comparable series of numbers from which percentages may be readily obtained.

There is a wide distinction in many respects between the problems of wholesale and retail prices, and the latter, though in some respects more important, are far harder to measure satisfactorily. The number of items which may be included in an inquiry into retail prices is far fewer than in the case of wholesale prices, and it is a statistical axiom that the precision of an average becomes greater the more commodities are included.

In a wholesale-price inquiry, too, difficulties of weighting are less; the number of commodities is so great and their importance so much more evenly distributed that different systems of weighting make less difference to the result. In retail prices, however, such items as bread and rent have such overwhelming influence that weighting assumes far greater importance. The difficulty is rendered worse by the fact that there is constant variation of expenditure from family to family, from group to group. Moreover, especially in such an item as rent, it is practically impossible to separate the factors of increasing rent and improving accommodation. But the problem is so important that some attempt must be made to solve the difficulties and measure the changes in the cost of living.

Method adopted.

Since the first tentative measurements, mainly of prices of single commodities, there has evolved a complex system of compilation, so that the methods of index numbers have undergone continuous change. Though investigators like Evelyn and Adam Smith made elaborate inquiries into

the prices of the main commodities, it was not till after the middle of the nineteenth century that the first index number was compiled by Newmarch and appeared in the Journal of the Royal Statistical Society for 1859. This index number, which has been from 1864 continued in the *Economist*, consisted first of nineteen and later of twenty-two articles, mainly raw products. The prices of these commodities are combined in an unweighted form, making the *Economist* index number. The defects of this simple method are, of course, obvious: the commodities are few and unweighted; the prices are taken on a given day, not averaged over the year; and the nature of the commodities gives an undue importance to fluctuations in the price of such a commodity as cotton. Changes, however, were made in 1912.

In 1863 Jevons published his celebrated essay, "A Serious Fall in the Value of the Gold Standard ascertained, and its Social Effects set forth." The prices of thirty-nine commodities were included, and in some parts of the discussion one hundred and eighteen. The prices were unweighted; but the use of the geometric average, which lessens the influence of extremes and also lessens the influence of the base period, marked a new departure in method.

In 1886 Mr. R. H. Inglis Palgrave made a thorough and exhaustive attempt to secure accuracy by a very complicated system of weighting, based on the actual annual consumption of the articles discussed. The weights, moreover, fluctuated in accordance with consumption each year.

The well-known index number of Mr. Augustus Sauerbeck, a London woolbroker, was also published for the first time in 1886, and has been continued from year to year since, being taken over lately by Sir George Paish in the *Statist*. Forty-five commodities are treated, divided into six groups; but the only system of weighting used is the inclusion of more than one commodity of an important class.

Similar index numbers have been prepared by Soetbeer in Germany, de Foville in France, and by Falkner, Dun, and Bradstreet in the United States. In addition, the Statistical Offices of Canada, United States, and Australia, and especially the Board of Trade, have produced index numbers both of wholesale and of retail prices.

It was the growing importance of index numbers of retail prices which finally called forth the method adopted in this report. All the wholesale index numbers mentioned above either used rough systems of weighting or simply averaged all commodities as of equal importance. But such a procedure, though perhaps not vitally affecting the problems of wholesale prices, still led to some inaccuracy, and was altogether too rough to measure changes in the cost of living, so that recourse was had to more elaborate methods. As early as 1833, in a proposal for a "tabular standard of value," Scrope had proposed to use a measurement of relative expenditures; but this was superseded by the measurement of price-ratios. However, when the importance of weighting became evident in retail prices, Mr. G. H. Knibbs, C.M.G., the Statistician of the Commonwealth of Australia, evolved what he has called the "aggregate-expenditure method," which is based on Scrope's method.

The fundamental principle of this method is that, instead of giving an arbitrary system of weights to a series of price-ratios, the prices of

different commodities are multiplied by the quantity consumed, and so the aggregate expenditure is measured. It is admitted that the method assumes a fixed consumption of the articles treated, and over a course of years this may become a serious defect; but by this assumption it is possible to measure changes in prices very accurately. Moreover, in retail prices especially, the relative consumptions or usages do not vary greatly from year to year, and new commodities are introduced but slowly. Another advantage is that where the weights are thus constant the error involved in the use of the arithmetic mean instead of the more scientific geometric mean may safely be neglected.

In what is perhaps the most exhaustive and complete discussion extant of the relative merits and demerits of various index numbers, Professor Irving Fisher has used a series of tests to determine the best formula to use for an index number, and finally gives the weight of his authority to the weighted arithmetical method followed by Scrope, Sidgwick, Sauerbeck, and Giffen.* He states the formula in non-mathematical language, as meaning "that the level of prices in any year is found by dividing the *total value of the quantities* sold in that year by what that value would have been at base prices."

The decision to adopt the "aggregate expenditure" method, devised by the Commonwealth Statistician, as the method for a New Zealand index number was therefore mainly influenced by two reasons: First that Mr. Knibbs's exposition of the theory of determining price-indexes as contained in Appendix VIII of his first "Report on Price-Indexes and Cost of Living in Australia" is sufficiently convincing to establish the belief that his method is the one which so far gives the best and most accurate measurement of exchange value. It is very simple in construction, and the fact that index numbers computed on this method are reversible is of very considerable advantage from a practical point of view, as it enables a change of base to be made to any year or any town, with very little labour. In concluding his very exhaustive mathematical inquiry into the various methods of computing price-index numbers, Mr. Knibbs sums up the advantages of the method of aggregate expenditures as follows :—

(i.) It is incomparably superior to the unweighted price-ratio method if the mass-units are at all near the true usage-quantities.

(ii.) If the mass-units are only approximately correct, small differences in their value will not sensibly vary the result.

(iii.) One can instantly see in practical computation the influence of each term on the result, and thus estimate the effect of any uncertainties.

(iv.) It is the simplest possible of all methods, the precision of which entitles them to consideration.

The first conclusion given above, the justification of the trouble involved in any system of weighting, is, of course, particularly important in an inquiry into retail prices, and indeed the whole method is admirably suited for such an investigation. The second conclusion follows from the statistical law that

* Irving Fisher: "Purchasing-power of Money," chapter x, Appendix.

errors in weighting are much less important than errors in prices; and the third is intimately connected with this point, since it follows that even small fluctuations in the prices of important commodities are readily reflected in the index numbers.

A second and very important reason for the adoption of this method lies in the proximity and similarity of Australia to New Zealand. The economic conditions of the two countries are very similar; what social problems there are, are almost identical, and it is obviously desirable that any statistical work should be conducted on similar lines. It is inevitable that comparisons will be made between the two countries, and as a matter of fact comparisons especially in this matter of the cost of living have repeatedly been demanded within the last few months. If different methods of calculation were adopted, comparisons would be vitiated at once and much valuable information would thus be lost; and the sources of data for economic reasoning are too few for us to afford to lose the valuable lessons of observation by means of comparative experience.

Perhaps the simplest explanation of the aggregate-expenditure method of constructing index numbers is the illustration of the housewife's weekly marketing. Imagine that the housewife, each Saturday, takes her basket and goes to town to do the week's shopping. She purchases just what is required for the household for the following week, and returns home with her basket containing just so much of each commodity as is necessary for consumption during the week. If exactly the same quantities of each commodity were purchased every week then the difference in the total cost of the contents of the basket, which may be termed the "composite unit" or "regimen" for one week as compared with another, is the correct measurement of the price-variations between the two periods. So in the aggregate-expenditure method, by taking a definite composite unit or regimen, based on the consumption within the country of the various commodities selected, and recording the prices of these commodities at intervals during the year, it is possible to construct an index number which accurately represents the effect of price-variations in the purchasing-power of money.

The method may also be explained by a concrete numerical example in connection with the seven commodities which have been selected to comprise the dairy-produce group. These commodities are milk, butter, eggs, shoulder bacon, middle-cut bacon, and ham. The average price of each of these commodities in Wellington in 1911 was—milk, 3·98d. per quart; butter, 14·50d. per pound; cheese, 8·25d. per pound; eggs, 16·47d. per dozen; shoulder of bacon, 6·75d. per pound; middle-cut bacon, 10·50d. per pound; and ham, 11·25d. per pound. In 1891 the average price of the same seven commodities was 3·08d. for milk, 10·62d. for butter, 8d. for cheese, 13·60d. for eggs, 5d. for shoulder bacon, 8·75d. for middle-cut bacon, and 9·50d. for ham. The total annual consumption by the people of the Dominion of these commodities is reckoned approximately at 78,600,000 quarts of milk, 21,400,000 lb. of butter, 4,300,000 lb. of cheese, 5,200,000 dozen eggs, 2,800,000 lb. of shoulder bacon, 7,100,000 lb. of middle-cut bacon, and 4,200,000 lb. of ham. Therefore the actual expenditure of the people of New Zealand on these commodities in the

two years under comparison on the basis of prices ruling in Wellington would be as follows :—

Example illustrative of the Computation of Index Numbers by the Aggregate-expenditure Method.

Commodities.	Unit of Quantity.	Annual Consumption (00,000 omitted).	Average Price.		Total Expenditure.	
			1911.	1891.	1911.	1891.
			d.	d.	d.	d.
Milk	Quart	786	3·98	3·08	3,128·28	2,420·88
Butter	Pound	214	14·50	10·62	3,103·00	2,272·68
Cheese	,,	43	8·25	8·00	354·75	344·00
Eggs	Dozen	52	16·47	13·60	856·44	707·20
Bacon (shoulder) ..	Pound	28	6·75	5·00	189·00	140·00
,, (middle cut) ..	,,	71	10·50	8·75	745·50	621·25
Ham	,,	42	11·25	9·50	472·50	399·00
Aggregate expenditure	..	..	..	..	8,849·47	6,905·01

The aggregate expenditure was thus found to be 6,905·01 in 1891, while in 1911 it rose to 8,849·47. Now, the base has been computed for this group of commodities, as for all other groups taken separately or in combination, by taking the annual aggregate expenditure of each of the four chief centres for a period of five years (1909 to 1913 inclusive), and dividing the total thus obtained by 20 : *i.e.*, 5 (number of years) × 4 (number of cities).

In this group the average annual aggregate expenditure for the five years (the average of the four chief centres) is 8,690·84. This number is made the base (= 1,000). Therefore the index number for the dairy-produce group in Wellington in 1891 is $\frac{6,905\cdot01}{8,690\cdot84} \times 1,000 = 795$, and in 1911 $\frac{8,849\cdot47}{8,690\cdot84} \times 1,000 = 1,018$, which might have been computed directly by taking the reciprocal of the result already secured. If instead of seven commodities a large number is taken—as, for instance, in the groceries group, in which the aggregate expenditure is computed from thirty-one commodities, and the computations carried on over a period of years—the index numbers thus obtained furnish a sufficient index of price-variations from year to year.

Selection of Commodities.

The selection of the commodities to be included is perhaps the most important step in the inquiry. Unless the number of commodities included is sufficient and such as to cover the principal commodities ordinarily necessary for the "living" of the mass of the people in the country, the conclusions drawn as to variations in the cost of that living may be misleading. The ordinary necessaries and conventional comforts required for the maintenance of the people may be grouped under four main headings—viz., food, clothing, housing, and fuel and light. Consideration of the items which are covered by these groups show that there are no obstacles to the inclusion of

house-rent and food, but that in regard to the other two—clothing and fuel and light—there are reasons which make their inclusion impracticable and inadvisable.

Food.—Excluding fruit and vegetables, the principal items of food do not vary as to grade or quality to such an extent as to preclude the most frequently sold qualities or grades being determined precisely by the retailers by whom the particulars are to be supplied. Although no doubt there are several grades and qualities in food commodities, yet there is in nearly all cases one grade or quality which exceeds all the others in the quantity sold. It is quite possible, therefore, to cover the main food items.

Clothing.—After food and housing, it will be found that clothing forms the largest item in the "cost of living" expenditure, but, owing to the influences of individual taste and fashion, the qualities and grades are very numerous. The quality and grade are subject to constant changes from year to year, and it is found impracticable to select a list of clothing commodities in regard to which comparable predominant prices could be obtained. Moreover, careful consideration of the expenditure on clothing leads to the conclusion that its omission from a "cost of living" inquiry is not as serious as the amount of expenditure on the item would indicate. Clothing is an admitted necessity, but a large proportion of the expenditure thereon may well be looked upon as a luxury, and it is this portion of the expenditure which varies and fluctuates most. The necessary expenditure on clothing does not vary greatly from year to year. Further, it will be found that with the average man of moderate income the expenditure on clothing is to a great extent dependent on what surplus of income is available after the needs of housing and food are satisfied. Food and house-rent must first be provided, and if economies must be exercised they are most likely to be effected in the expenditure on other commodities. For these reasons articles of clothing are not included in the inquiry.

House-rent.—In this case, while no doubt houses vary greatly in size, convenience, situation, &c., it is quite practicable to follow the rent-movements from year to year, and there is no valid reason why house-rent should not be included.

This item, however, is in many respects the most difficult item to handle in a satisfactory way. The method used has been similar to that adopted by the Commonwealth—returns of average rents for the various classes of houses (reckoned according to number of rooms) have been collected from house agents in different towns, and each class has been given a weight corresponding to the relative number of houses of that class in the centre. In this way is obtained an average weekly rent for all classes of houses. The relative numbers of houses in the four chief centres is assumed not to have varied in the twenty-four years 1891–1914, and the figures used for weights are taken from the census of 1911.

By this method it is possible to get a good indication of the changes in house-rent over the period; but in some instances the data has not been altogether satisfactory, and in the future it will probably be found desirable to obtain more definite figures by getting returns of actual rents.

Fuel and Light.—There are no difficulties in regard to obtaining predominant prices for the commodities which go to make up this group, but

the consumption of these commodities varies greatly as between place and place. In some places wood is principally burned and very little coal is used. Gas is used in some towns, electricity in others, while there are also towns with and without both. It would be impossible, therefore, to fix a mass-unit for these commodities which would be properly applicable to all towns for which retail price-index numbers are to be produced. The group "fuel and light" has therefore to be omitted from the inquiry into the cost of living in the twenty-five towns, but the particulars have been and are being collected, and this group will be made the subject of a special index number for those towns in which the consumption of the commodities included may be considered as in approximately the same relative proportion.

List of Commodities included.

As indicated above, the main inquiry has been confined to food and house-rent, the former being divided into three groups—viz., groceries, dairy-produce, and meat. In all fifty-nine commodities are treated, compared with forty-seven in the Commonwealth index number, thirty in the Canadian index number, and twenty-three in the Board of Trade retail index number. The United States Bureau of Labour has also published a retail-prices investigation, covering fifteen food commodities and some articles of fuel and light.

The division of groups used follows the lines of the Commonwealth inquiry, and it may be noticed here that the groceries group includes such items as starch, blue, soap, and tobacco, which cannot be classed as foods, but, not being important enough to form a separate class, were included here. The full list of commodities is as follows :—

Group I—Groceries.—Bread, flour, oatmeal, rice, sago, tapioca, tea, coffee, cocoa, sugar, salt, pepper, jam, honey, golden syrup, treacle, raisins, currants, apricots (tinned), peaches (tinned), pears (tinned), prunes (dried), apricots (dried), potatoes, onions, salmon (tinned), herrings (tinned), starch, blue, soap, tobacco.

Group II—Dairy-produce.—Milk, butter, cheese, eggs, bacon (shoulder), bacon (middle cut), ham.

Group III—Meat.—Beef—Sirloin, brisket, prime rib, rump steak, top side, stewing-steak, corned round, corned roll, corned brisket; mutton—leg, shoulder, loin, neck, chops; pork—leg, loin, belly, chops; sausages—beef, pork; tripe.

Group IV—House-rent.

Importance of these Commodities.

In the collection of household budgets carried out by the Labour Department in 1910–11 it was found that the average expenditure ranged thus :—

	Per Cent. of Total Expenditure.
Housing	20·31
Food	34·13
Clothing	13·89
Fuel and light	5·22
Other items	26·45
	100·00

In the 34·13 per cent. of the total expenditure shown above for food is included expenditure on certain items of fruit and vegetables not included in the present inquiry. Even if these are excluded, the inquiry covers over 50 per cent. of the total expenditure, and if expenditure only on what may be considered absolute necessities is dealt with, it will be found that the inquiry covers a much larger proportion of the total necessary expenditure of a normal family.

Not only do the commodities treated comprise the most necessary items of expenditure, amounting on the average to over half the total expenditure of an average family, but these commodities become more and more important in cases where the expenditure is limited below the average. Food and shelter are the primary needs which must be satisfied before all others, and Engel's law, that the proportion of income expended on food rapidly decreases as incomes rise, has a real importance here. In the cases where the increasing cost of living presses most harshly, the commodities which have been treated assume greater importance than any others.

"Mass-unit" or Weight.

In the construction of the index number allowance must be made for the fact that all commodities are not of equal importance, otherwise the results will be valueless. It will at once be seen that a variation in, say, the price of pepper of even 100 per cent. would not be appreciable in the total cost of the composite unit or regimen, on account of the small quantity of pepper required. But an increase of 5 or 10 per cent. in the price of bread would affect the total cost very considerably, since bread would bulk largely in the housewife's basket. In order, therefore, to assign to every commodity its proper importance in the index number, the price of each commodity is multiplied by a number representing its relative importance to the other commodities included. As the economic importance of a commodity consists in the extent of its usage in the community, obviously a number which represents this is the proper one to use. This number Mr. Knibbs calls the "mass-unit." The mass-unit for each of the commodities selected was ascertained by taking the average production of each commodity in New Zealand plus or less the excess of imports over exports, or *vice versa*, covering the average of the past ten years. The sales for one month of the various grocery items were obtained and considered, and in the case of meat the proportions of the animal cut into the various joints were obtained from several recognized experts. The relative expenditures as shown by the household budgets collected by the Department of Labour ("Inquiry into Cost of Living in New Zealand, 1910–11") were also used to verify approximately the results.

As explained above, the proper economic importance of the commodities selected for this inquiry is determined by multiplying the price of each article by a number (the "mass-unit" or "weight") representing the extent of its usage in the community. Now, this weight is the usage or consumption of the commodity for a whole year, but we know that in the case of some commodities the consumption is greater at certain periods of

the year than at others. Certain other commodities also regularly vary in price enormously at different seasons of the year, mainly on account of changes affecting their productions. Some of the commodities in question, like milk, butter, potatoes, eggs, &c., are of considerable economic importance, and even a small variation in their price is immediately reflected in the index number. It is not practicable in an investigation of this kind to differentiate between each quarter in the "weights" assigned each commodity, even if it were possible to ascertain accurately the variation in the consumption. In the index number for the year these seasonal variations are of course averaged, and one year is properly comparable with another. Quarterly index numbers, for the reasons stated, are not properly comparable with yearly index numbers, or with index numbers for immediately preceding or succeeding quarters. A comparison of quarterly index numbers may properly be made between corresponding quarters of different years.

In later years, when more data has been accumulated, it may be possible to make an inquiry into the effect of seasonal changes as disclosed by the quarterly index numbers, with the object of discovering any cycle of variation that may exist.

The mass-units assigned to the various commodities are as shown below, the unit of measurement being also given in each case. The mass-unit represents the total consumption of the commodity in terms of the unit of measurement, the last five digits being omitted for convenience in working.

RETAIL PRICES INQUIRY—UNIT OF MEASUREMENT AND MASS-UNIT.

No. of Item.	Item.	Unit of Measurement.	Mass-unit (less 00,000).
	Group I.—Groceries.		
1	Bread	2 lb. loaf	1,085
2	Flour	25 lb. bag	21
3	Oatmeal	Pound	85
4	Rice	,, ...	81
5	Sago	,, ...	19
6	Tapioca..	,, ...	6
7	Tea	,, ...	75
8	Coffee	,, ...	4
9	Cocoa	¼ lb. tin	14
10	Sugar	56 lb. bag	20
11	Salt	Pound	122
12	Pepper	¼ lb.	6
13	Jam	Pound	195
14	Honey	,, ...	4
15	Golden syrup	2 lb. tin	10
16	Treacle	,, ...	2
17	Raisins	Pound	47
18	Currants	,, ...	26
19	Apricots (tinned)..	2½ lb. tin	4
20	Peaches (tinned)	,, ...	4
21	Pears (tinned)	,, ...	2
22	Prunes (dried)	Pound	11
23	Apricots (dried)	,, ...	6

RETAIL PRICES INQUIRY—UNIT OF MEASUREMENT AND MASS-UNIT—*continued.*

No. of Item.	Item.	Unit of Measurement.	Mass-unit (less 00,000).
	Group I.—Groceries—continued.		
24	Potatoes	14 lb.	146
25	Onions	Pound	101
26	Salmon (tinned)	Pound tin	10
27	Herrings (tinned)	,, ...	10
28	Starch	Pound	11
29	Blue	,, ...	2
30	Soap	Bar (36 to cwt.) ..	145
31	Tobacco	Pound	28
	Group II.—Dairy-produce.		
1	Milk	Quart	786
2	Butter	Pound	214
3	Cheese	,, ...	43
4	Eggs	Dozen	52
5	Bacon (shoulder)	Pound	28
6	,, (middle cut)	,, ...	71
7	Ham	,, ...	42
	Group III.—Meat.		
1	Beef—Sirloin	Pound	174
2	,, Brisket	,, ...	18
3	,, Prime rib	,, ...	169
4	,, Rump steak	,, ...	142
5	,, Top side	,, ...	105
6	,, Stewing-steak	,, ...	316
7	,, Corned round	,, ...	119
8	,, ,, roll	,, ...	112
9	,, ,, brisket	,, ...	10
10	Mutton—Leg	,, ...	313
11	,, Shoulder	,, ...	276
12	,, Loin	,, ...	92
13	,, Neck	,, ...	184
14	,, Chops	,, ...	184
15	Pork—Leg	,, ...	28
16	,, Loin	,, ...	22
17	,, Belly	,, ...	16
18	,, Chops	,, ...	20
19	Sausages—Beef	,, ...	70
20	,, Pork	,, ...	28
21	Tripe	,, ...	28
	Group IV.—House-rent.		
1	House-rent	..	109·2

The aggregate expenditure in a group is obtained by multiplying the average price of each commodity in the group by its mass-unit and adding together the various products. The total aggregate expenditure is the sum of the aggregate expenditures of the four groups shown above.

The average weekly rent as obtained for the various centres in each of the twenty-four years was multiplied by 109·2, the weight arrived at for house-rent. The aggregate expenditure thus ascertained is found to approximate very closely to the results obtained by the Labour Department in 1911 (see *ante*).

In combining the three food groups and the four groups to form the index number for the cost of living the same procedure is followed as was used in making up each group. The aggregate-expenditure method results in automatic weighting of each commodity and of each group, so that any change in the price of any article or group is given its proper economic importance. It is impossible, therefore, to arrive at the composite index number merely by averaging the indices for the different groups.

Selection of Base.

The index numbers for the whole period under review must be based on some definite period, the prices for which have been equated to 1000, so that each index number is relative to the base. The choice of a base-period, therefore, is of some importance, since an abnormal period will apparently distort the whole series. It is always advisable to fix the base as near the end of the series as possible, since a base at the beginning is more out of touch with present conditions. In the Commonwealth the single year 1911 has been taken; but a single year is open to the objection that, since each group is for that year shown as 1000, it might be assumed, though wrongly, that the aggregate expenditure in that year was identical in each group and in every town. This difficulty is plainly illustrated by the graphs, which all converge to a point in 1911. For this reason, and also to avoid taking any single year which might possibly be considered as abnormal in regard to some of the commodities selected, it was decided to take as the base or standard the average of the five years 1909–13. Perhaps, however, the principal reason actuating the departure from the single year was the desire to adopt one common base for all towns, so that the index numbers would be in every way comparable within a group—*i.e.*, to make the index number for say, Wellington, comparable not only within itself one year with another, but also comparable with the index number of any other town for the same group. For these reasons, therefore, it was decided to adopt as the "base" or "standard" the average annual aggregate expenditure of the four chief cities (Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin) for the five years 1909–13 inclusive. The relative comparability of the index numbers one with the other is not really affected by the base adopted, and, moreover, since the index number is reversible, by a very little labour, from the index numbers themselves, any year may be made the base and fresh numbers computed.

The only drawback which may be urged against the adoption of a period instead of a single year lies in the fact that in the tables of index numbers there is no concrete figure which may be pointed out as the basis of the table.

Collection of Data.

The primary consideration in any investigation of this nature must be the collection of accurate and reliable data; with inaccurate data the whole result is rendered worthless. If the index number is not a correct indication of the actual facts it is of no value whatever, and the labour expended is fruitless. For this reason, care has been taken at every stage of this inquiry to exclude any mere expressions of personal opinion, and to base all conclusions on the solid foundation of actual transactions. In order to ensure as far as possible that the data for past years should be accurate and concrete, and extracted from actual records of past transactions, an officer of the Labour Department (Mr. J. R. Fraser) was specially deputed to visit each of the four chief centres and interview retailers. He was thus enabled to get into personal touch with those merchants who had actual records going back over a series of years, and by a full explanation of the nature and purpose of the inquiry was enabled to enlist the merchants' personal interest in the compilation of an accurate return. The result was that the returns received, although not numerous, were very carefully and correctly made up, and the Department is satisfied of their accuracy and reliability. In most cases the retailers gave a great deal of their personal time and labour in searching past records, and the Department is very grateful for and appreciative of their co-operation.

All the investigation, then, is based on returns obtained in this way from merchants in the four centres. Each return has been compiled from actual records of sales, and is not merely the expression of opinion. The commodities treated cover, of course, many grades and qualities; but it has been possible in all cases to quote some predominant outstanding grade which covered the greatest proportion of sales. As in Australia, the whole inquiry is based on the predominant or most frequent prices of the predominant brands (thus using the conception of the *mode*, the case at which most instances occur). Most of the returns showed quarterly variations in prices since 1891, and in every case the years are fully comparable—the data received has been so complete that no interpolation has been found necessary. The only case in which the data has been found incomplete is in the prices of groceries in Christchurch from 1891 to 1898.

In the course of his inquiries, also, Mr. Fraser obtained a considerable quantity of valuable data, such as the number of loaves delivered to each household over given periods (in some instances a week and in others a month) at different times during the year, and similarly milk-deliveries, &c., which were all considered in determining the number of the various mass-units.

The number of returns received from retailers in the four centres was fifty, the total number of price quotations 31,500.

Scope of Inquiry.

Arrangements have now been made to collect reliable and accurate statistics of retail prices in New Zealand. The plan is similar to that in use in Australia, and the data which is being received is very satisfactory

and complete. Since the retail prices are so relevant to the cost of living, and are more liable to local, though not to temporary, fluctuations, it is advisable to extend the collection of the data as widely as possible. With this object in view data is now being collected monthly from twenty-five towns in New Zealand, representative of inland and coastal districts, of large and small centres, and scattered widely over both Islands. On the 15th of every month the Inspectors of Factories in these towns collect current retail prices from local grocers and butchers, and forward in addition prices of other commodities; these returns are checked and tabulated in the office of the Government Statistician, and every quarter an index number of prices is published in the *Labour Journal*. The work of the Inspectors of Factories in this connection has been invaluable, and their duties have been promptly and efficiently carried out. Every month returns are received from twenty-five Inspectors of Factories, eighty-eight grocers, and sixty-five butchers, while twice each year the index numbers for rent are compiled from fifty-three returns forwarded by house agents. This means in the aggregate that over six thousand price quotations are examined each month, excluding rent returns, and the number will shortly be increased.

At the same time, it was advisable in initiating the inquiry to go back as far as reliable data could be obtained; but the very nature of the retail trade has rendered it impossible to go beyond 1891. Arrangements for the prosecution of this work were made early in 1914; but the outbreak of war in August, 1914, has hindered matters in many respects. The merchants and retailers with whom arrangements had been made for returns for past years were in a number of cases unable to supply particulars as soon as they no doubt would have done under normal circumstances, and the work of compilation in the Statistical Office had also to be suspended for some considerable time. However, except in the case of Christchurch groceries, complete data has been obtained for all cities back to 1891, and the results of the investigation based on this data are presented in the following pages. The continuation of these statistics will be published in the *Labour Journal* from time to time.

CHAPTER II.—GENERAL TABLES.

In this chapter are given the index numbers of retail prices, which have been compiled from prices collected in the four chief centres, over the period 1891–1914. The annual average prices on which these index numbers are based may be found in an appendix to this report. The procedure followed in this section has been to represent each of the three food groups separately, following the index numbers by a short discussion and analysis, then to combine the three groups so as to give an indication of the changes in food-prices.

The two remaining groups—rent, and fuel and light—are again discussed separately.

GROUP I.—GROCERIES.

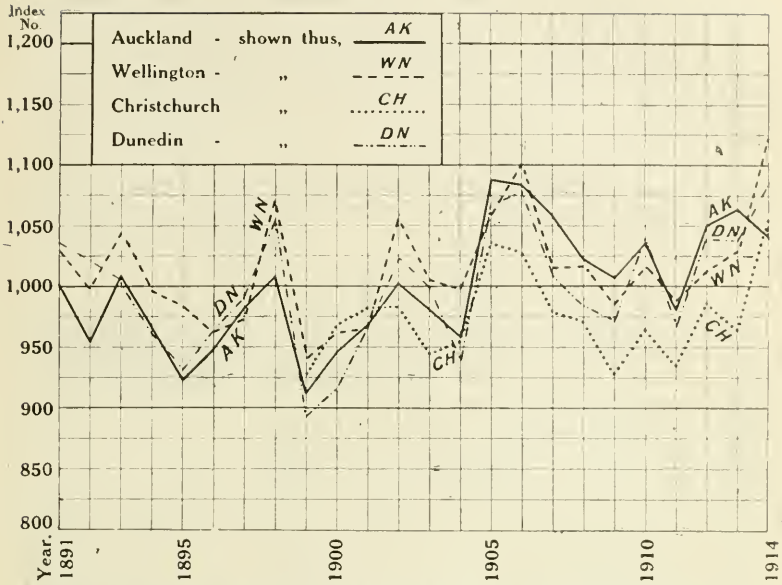
Index Numbers for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and for Average of Four Centres for each Year 1891–1914.

(Base : Average aggregate annual expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891.. ..	1,002	1,030	*	1,036	*
1892.. ..	957	999	*	1,022	*
1893.. ..	1,010	1,044	*	1,009	*
1894.. ..	968	998	*	967	*
1895.. ..	924	984	*	931	*
1896.. ..	949	962	*	963	*
1897.. ..	981	973	*	992	*
1898.. ..	1,009	1,073	*	1,054	*
1899.. ..	913	941	929	893	919
1900.. ..	946	961	968	916	948
1901.. ..	969	967	982	967	971
1902.. ..	1,003	1,057	982	1,022	1,016
1903.. ..	981	1,006	944	999	983
1904.. ..	957	999	953	938	962
1905.. ..	1,088	1,059	1,035	1,066	1,062
1906.. ..	1,085	1,100	1,027	1,078	1,072
1907.. ..	1,060	1,016	979	1,010	1,016
1908.. ..	1,024	1,017	971	985	999
1909.. ..	1,007	985	927	972	973
1910.. ..	1,036	1,017	964	1,039	1,014
1911.. ..	981	989	934	968	968
1912.. ..	1,050	1,013	986	1,039	1,022
1913.. ..	1,064	1,029	964	1,036	1,023
1914.. ..	1,041	1,122	1,055	1,085	1,076

* No data available for Christchurch for these years.

Retail Prices of Groceries, 1891–1914.



Explanation of Graphs.—The base of each small square represents a year's interval, and the vertical height differences of 25 in the index numbers.

This group, groceries, is the largest and most varied group of any that have been treated in this inquiry, comprising thirty-one items, which in some instances are subject to different influences. Indeed, the fact of being retailed from the same kind of shop is in many cases the only point of connection in some of these groups of articles.

From the table the movement of prices is so confused as to defy any attempt to derive a general trend, fluctuations are so heavy and apparently so irregular that there seems no general law governing them. Even in the graphical representation there is considerable confusion, with no definite tendency. Although there are peaks of high prices in 1893, 1898, 1902, 1906, 1910, and 1914, it is hardly possible to say whether prices are increasing on the average. The highest peaks are those in 1898, 1906, and 1914, and the recurrence of intervals of eight years is very noticeable. Intermediate peaks come in 1893, 1902, 1910, again at similar regular intervals, and intervening with the higher peaks. It would seem, therefore, that the prices in this group run in four-yearly cycles, every second cycle being more pronounced.

The level of prices was on the up grade in 1912–13 in accordance with the regular cycle, when war prices accelerated the movement in 1914. The level of prices reached in 1914 is therefore higher than any preceding level, except in Auckland.

It is noticeable that the index numbers for the various cities rise and fall together, except in a few cases, as, for instance, in 1896, when the index numbers in Auckland and Dunedin rose fairly sharply after a fall extending over two years, while that for Wellington, which had not fallen so low in the earlier years, continued to drop. In 1914, also, the index number in Auckland is lower than in 1913; the other three centres, however, showing considerable upward movement.

The averages of the index numbers for groceries in Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin are found to be 1,000, 1,014, and 999 respectively for the twenty-four years dealt with. The averages for the sixteen years 1899–1914 are: Auckland, 1,013; Wellington, 1,017; Christchurch, 975; and Dunedin, 1,001.

Analysis of Group.

The outstanding feature of the table showing the index numbers for groceries is, as previously stated, the number and extent of the fluctuations disclosed. From a scrutiny of the figures as published it is hardly possible to state any regular motion or trend, and it is evident that there are conflicting tendencies at work.

The commodities included under the heading "groceries" may be roughly divided into two groups. The first group consists of articles, mainly imported, of a general nature, such as rice, tea, fruits (dried and tinned), tinned fish, soap, starch, blue, tobacco, the nature and production of which does not greatly vary from year to year. It is reasonable to expect that the prices of these articles would remain much more constant than appears from the published table.

The second group consists mainly of articles which are produced in New Zealand, and which are either themselves products of the soil or are mainly composed of such products. These articles are bread, flour, oatmeal, potatoes, and onions; and upon a scrutiny of the data it was at once evident that this group was responsible for the violent fluctuations of the index number for groceries. The distinction in the course of prices of imports and exports, or of imported products and home products, has been noticed before, notably by Dr. J. W. McIlraith in his "Course of Prices in New Zealand," and by the Report of the Royal Commission on the Cost of Living in New Zealand, 1912. The distinction lies in the fact that in New Zealand exports, and home products generally, are primary products, while imports are, in the main, secondary products.

Most of the sugar used in New Zealand is refined in the Dominion, but supplies of raw material must be brought from overseas, so that it is not strictly correct to give it the designation of a product of New Zealand. Its importance in the groceries group is very great, since its heavy annual consumption has caused it to be weighted heavily. The movements in the price of sugar have therefore been of considerable importance, particularly as they are subject to special conditions. Sugar has attracted public attention at various times, and alterations of tariff have had great influence on its course of prices. For these reasons it has been deemed advisable to give a separate table to the retail price of sugar in New Zealand.

For the purpose of further examination therefore the grocery group has been divided into three separate groups, as follows :—

Group 1A.—Groceries, excluding bread, flour, oatmeal, potatoes, onions, and sugar. This group consists of the following items : Rice, sago, tapioca, tea, coffee, cocoa, salt, pepper, jam, honey, golden syrup, treacle, raisins, currants, tinned apricots, peaches, and pears, dried prunes and apricots, tinned salmon and herrings, starch, blue, soap, and tobacco.

Group 1B.—Five home products : Bread, flour, oatmeal, potatoes, and onions.

Group 1C.—Sugar.

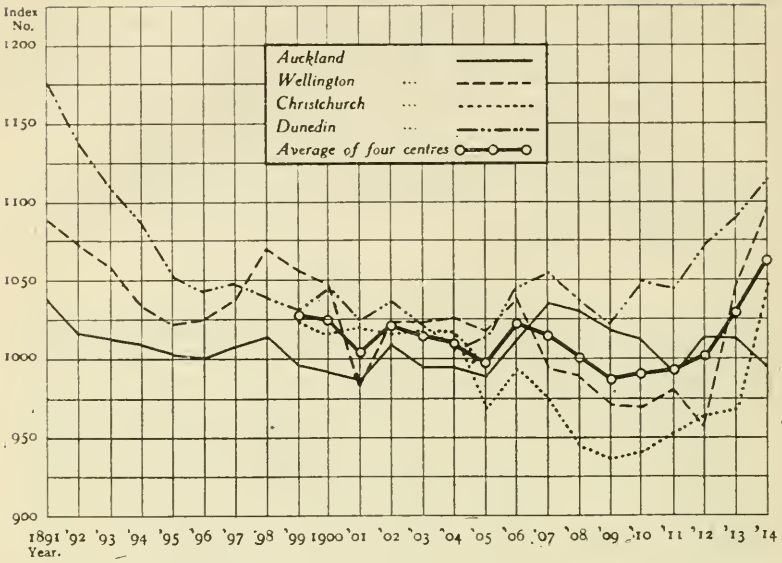
Group 1A.—Groceries : General Articles.

Index Numbers of the Retail Prices for Groceries, excluding Bread, Flour, Oatmeal, Potatoes, Onions, and Sugar, in the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand for each Year 1891 to 1914.

(Base : Average annual aggregate expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891	1,038	1,089	..	1,176	..
1892	1,015	1,073	..	1,139	..
1893	1,013	1,059	..	1,109	..
1894	1,009	1,034	..	1,086	..
1895	1,002	1,022	..	1,052	..
1896	1,001	1,026	..	1,043	..
1897	1,008	1,038	..	1,046	..
1898	1,013	1,070	..	1,039	..
1899	996	1,056	1,024	1,031	**1,027**
1900	991	1,048	1,016	1,044	**1,025**
1901	985	983	1,020	1,025	**1,003**
1902	1,009	1,023	1,015	1,036	**1,021**
1903	994	1,023	1,018	1,021	**1,014**
1904	993	1,025	1,015	1,005	**1,009**
1905	988	1,018	968	1,014	**997**
1906	1,011	1,038	993	1,045	**1,022**
1907	1,035	994	972	1,054	**1,014**
1908	1,030	990	945	1,036	**1,000**
1909	1,018	971	936	1,021	**986**
1910	1,002	970	940	1,049	**990**
1911	991	980	952	1,045	**992**
1912	1,013	957	964	1,073	**1,002**
1913	1,014	1,046	967	1,089	**1,029**
1914	994	1,097	1,047	1,114	**1,063**

Retail Prices.—Group 1a.—General Groceries.



A consideration of the table and graph above suggests at once that the retail prices for these general articles of groceries are, on the whole, much more stable than were the prices of the larger group dealt with above. There are some variations between the four cities, especially in the latter years, partly explainable no doubt by the *vis inertiæ* of retail prices. One of the main difficulties in an investigation of this nature arises from the fact that a price is a *particular* instance of value, and therefore that prices, and retail prices especially, are local and temporary, and relative to particular qualities and types of commodities. Moreover, it has been proved in similar investigations that a wider range of prices is usual in retail than in wholsesale lines, and that retail prices do not move with the same freedom as wholesale prices.

The general tendency as seen in the average index number for the four cities seems plainly marked. On the whole, retail prices of general groceries seem to drop gradually and consistently, especially after the tariff revision of 1907, until quite recent times, when a sudden rise is apparent.

The price-level in the different centres varies to some extent, though not greatly when it is considered that retail, not wholesale, prices are under review. The divergence is greatest in later years, where the fluctuations are also relatively greater. Dunedin prices seem to keep consistently above those of the other centres, and Christchurch prices below. It will be obvious from the above graph that, as a general rule, the prices in the four centres rise or fall together, though not to the same extent.

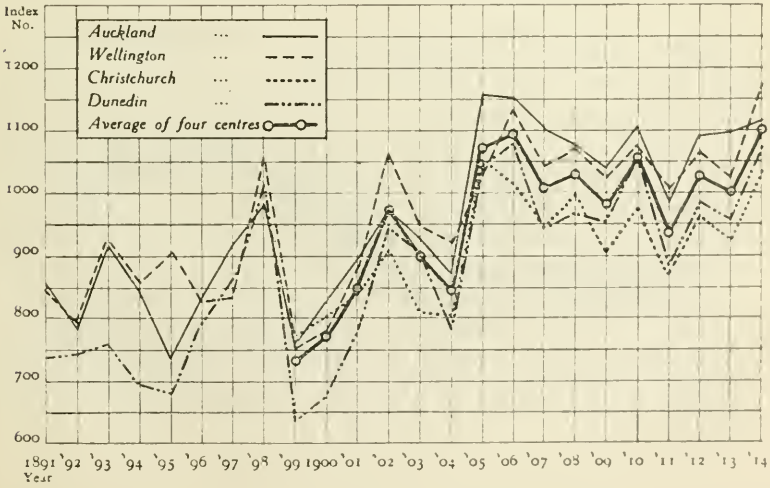
Group 1B.—Five Home Products.

The course of prices of the five food commodities, all of them New Zealand products, is different, as may be seen from the following table and graph :—

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Five Home Products (Bread, Flour, Oatmeal, Potatoes, and Onions) in the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand from 1891 to 1914.

(Base : Average annual aggregate expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891	854	841	..	736	..
1892	785	793	..	743	..
1893	919	927	..	759	..
1894	833	855	..	696	..
1895	775	904	..	680	..
1896	833	827	..	791	..
1897	918	833	..	864	..
1898	981	1,057	..	1,017	..
1899	765	752	771	634	731
1900	827	779	805	674	771
1901	893	879	839	782	848
1902	973	1,063	908	944	972
1903	932	947	811	906	899
1904	873	922	805	781	845
1905	1,158	1,034	1,050	1,044	1,072
1906	1,154	1,133	1,014	1,080	1,095
1907	1,102	1,043	947	943	1,009
1908	1,078	1,072	999	969	1,029
1909	1,041	1,026	906	951	981
1910	1,106	1,079	977	1,051	1,053
1911	984	1,006	876	882	937
1912	1,092	1,067	964	987	1,027
1913	1,100	1,026	923	957	1,001
1914	1,114	1,173	1,033	1,074	1,098



It is at once obvious that this group of commodities is largely responsible for the fluctuations in the index number previously given for the grocery group, and it is also evident that, in many ways, the course of prices of this group differs from the prices of general groceries. The fluctuations as revealed by the table and graph are wide and continuous, showing, however, two distinct tendencies.

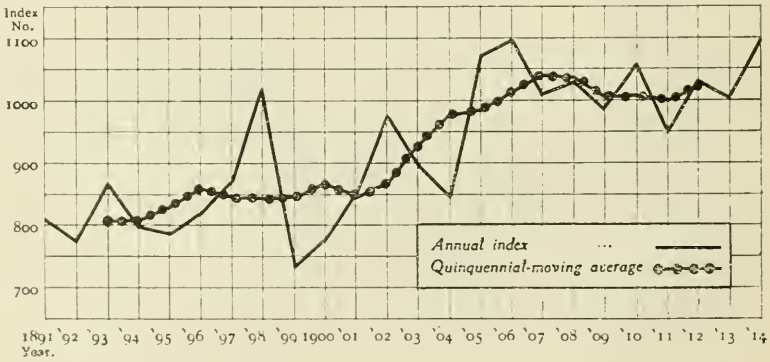
It is very noticeable that the four centres move together not only as to direction, but largely as to the extent of the change in price. Allowing for the different levels of prices in the four towns, it will be seen that, in practically every instance, the rise or fall is similar, so that the curves run almost parallel. This would seem to point to the fact that the market for these five articles is more general and specialized than that for general grocery lines. There are not such great local variations of price, a fact which points to the existence of one general market for New Zealand instead of local markets. It is probable that when the investigation of wholesale prices, which is to be dealt with later, has been completed, the existence of this market will be demonstrated more clearly. Even retail prices, however, show a very intimate connection between the price-levels of the different centres.

It is interesting that Christchurch, which is the centre of wheat-production in New Zealand, consistently shows the lowest level of prices, while other towns range from Christchurch practically in the order of their distance.

Quinquennial Averages.

The great fluctuations of this group show two conflicting tendencies —an upward movement of prices, which, however, is often obscured by a cyclical movement of temporary variation. In order to separate these tendencies, a moving quinquennial average has been given, and a graph has been drawn showing the variations of annual prices from this average.

Annual and Quinquennial moving average Retail Prices.—Five Home Products.



Annual and Quinquennial Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Five Home Products (Bread, Flour, Oatmeal, Potatoes, Onions) for the Four Centres in New Zealand, 1891 to 1914.

(Base : Average annual aggregate expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000).

NOTE.—For the years 1891–98 prices have been compiled from Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin only.

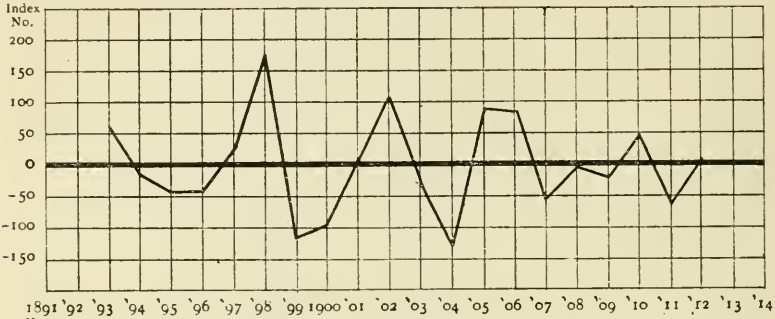
Year.	Annual Index.	Quinquennial Moving Average.	Deviations.	
			Plus.	Minus.
1891	810	..	..	..
1892	774	..	..	..
1893	868	807	61	..
1894	795	808	..	13
1895	786	828	..	42
1896	817	858	..	41
1897	872	845	27	..
1898	1,018	842	176	..
1899	731	848	..	117
1900	771	868	..	97
1901	848	844	4	..
1902	972	867	105	..
1903	899	927	..	28
1904	845	977	..	132
1905	1,072	984	88	..
1906	1,095	1,010	85	..
1907	1,009	1,037	..	48
1908	1,029	1,033	..	4
1909	981	1,002	..	21
1910	1,053	1,005	48	..
1911	937	1,000	..	63
1912	1,027	1,023	4	..
1913	1,001	..	..	..
1914	1,098	..	..	..

Where figures fluctuate as in Group 1B the general trend is not readily observed, and even in the graph illustrating the movement there is a great deal of apparently confused fluctuation, so that further analysis is desirable. Local variations of price were eliminated by taking the average over the four centres; but there still remain temporary variations which obscure while they do not greatly affect the general tendency of the price-level. In order to eliminate these, the device of moving averages has been used, and the graph above shows the general trend of prices very plainly. Retail prices for Christchurch are missing for the years 1891 to 1898, and, in order to make the graph more complete, prices for Christchurch have been interpolated at the average of the other three centres.

The graph shows up the general trend unmistakably: the smooth line representing the moving quinquennial average price moves upwards almost continuously, specially since 1901. It is thus evident that the prices of these five foodstuffs have, on the whole, tended to rise very considerably.

Quinquennial Deviation from Annual.

Another interesting feature of the same graph is its illustration of the annual deviation from the moving average. The curve of annual prices fluctuates regularly round the curve of quinquennial prices, so regularly as to suggest a cyclical movement. In order to make this cyclical movement more evident, in the following graph the deviations from the average have been plotted about a straight line which represents the quinquennial average.



The result, especially in the earlier years, is a regular succession of troughs and crests, though in the later years the symmetry is marred by abnormal conditions. The first break occurs in 1908, when the commercial crisis which was in evidence, first in America and later in England in 1907, affected New Zealand prices. Similarly, the effects of the war have destroyed the regularity of movement in the last period. Roughly, these oscillations above and below the average represent variations in production from period to period, and the regularity with which periods of high and low prices alternate is so striking as to suggest some underlying cause or law, probably connected with production. Incidentally also these variations emphasize the importance of accurate and reliable statistics being obtained and recorded for production in agriculture, both as a guide to the producer and as a factor in any investigation into the causes of these variations.

The four-yearly cycles of prices of agricultural produce would seem to support the conclusions reached by Professor H. S. Jevons, who has established the existence of cyclical periods of agricultural production, each period covering three to four years, and being largely dependent on weather-conditions.

The influence of the Australian market on New Zealand prices is often commented upon; but the course of this inquiry leads to the conclusion that this influence has been exaggerated. There is no doubt of the periodic shortages in the Australian supply; but there is no evidence to show that New Zealand prices have any definite connection with the amount of produce which is shipped across to Australia.

An attempt has been made to correlate the exports with prices, on the method adopted later in this section, in connection with dairy-produce; but the result was negative and small. On the other hand, the existence of a well-marked cycle, which does not coincide with exports to Australia, would seem to suggest that the causes which influence prices are to be found nearer home in conditions affecting production.

Groups 1a and 1b contrasted.

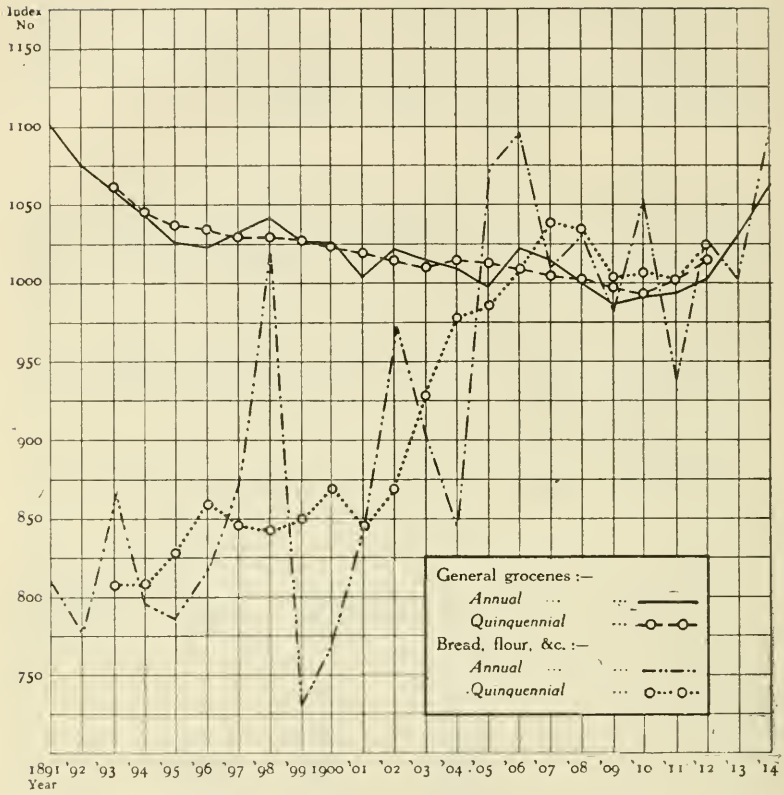
The movements of the prices of the two groups just treated are so essentially different and their movement so informative that it is worth while to devote a little space to their study in contrast. In the following table and graph the annual and quinquennial index numbers for both groups are shown together.

Table comparing the Annual and Quinquennial Index Numbers of Retail Prices of the Groups 1a (General Groceries) and 1b (Bread, Flour, Oatmeal, Potatoes, and Onions) averaged over the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand from 1891 to 1914.

Note.—For the years 1891–98 the average has been compiled from the figures for Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin only.

Year.	Annual Index Numbers.		Quinquennial Index Numbers.	
	General Groceries.	Bread, Flour, Oatmeal, Potatoes, and Onions.	General Groceries.	Bread, Flour, Oatmeal, Potatoes, and Onions.
1891	1,101	810	..	..
1892	1,076	774	..	..
1893	1,060	868	1,061	807
1894	1,043	795	1,045	808
1895	1,025	786	1,036	828
1896	1,023	817	1,033	858
1897	1,031	872	1,029	845
1898	1,041	1,018	1,029	842
1899	1,027	731	1,027	848
1900	1,025	771	1,023	868
1901	1,003	848	1,018	844
1902	1,021	972	1,014	867
1903	1,014	899	1,009	927
1904	1,009	845	1,013	977
1905	997	1,072	1,011	984
1906	1,022	1,095	1,008	1,010
1907	1,014	1,009	1,004	1,037
1908	1,000	1,029	1,002	1,033
1909	986	981	996	1,002
1910	990	1,053	994	1,005
1911	992	937	1,000	1,000
1912	1,002	1,027	1,015	1,023
1913	1,029	1,001	..	..
1914	1,063	1,098	..	..

Annual and Quinquennial Retail Prices.—Groups 1a and 1b.



The contrast of the two groups of commodities is very evident from a glance at the graph on which the annual and quinquennial index numbers are plotted.

The first noticeable feature is the difference of fluctuation that is observable. The general groceries follow regular lines and the movement is exceedingly small. This is brought out especially by the striking way in which the quinquennial graph clings closely to the annual average, showing little divergence over any period. On the other hand, the home products, plotted on the same scale, show very great fluctuations indeed, both absolutely and relatively. The graph is a constant succession of peaks and depressions through which the moving quinquennial average cuts its way, now above, now below the average. It is obvious, therefore, that the food products of home origin fluctuate considerably more than do the imported manufactured groceries.

Not only are the fluctuations different, but the general trend of prices is practically opposite. This trend is shown by the smoothed lines of quinquennial averages. In the case of general groceries a continuous though gradual fall is apparent right through the period, except for one small rise in the period 1902–6 and for a definite rise in the last few years. With these two exceptions prices have been falling continuously, partly due, no doubt, to tariff remissions; but, as Dr. J. W. McIlraith first pointed out, the divergence between the price-levels is due to a radical difference in the articles, imported manufactured goods following a different course of prices from home products, which are mainly raw materials and foodstuffs.

The trend of the price-level of the home products is unmistakable: the moving average shows a continuous and rapid rise, except for a short period after 1907.

In regard to the point here illustrated as to the course of prices for groups 1A and 1B, it is to be noted that while the steady increase shown in these home products and in the dairy-produce and meat groups does no doubt very materially increase the "cost of living," yet it also indicates the great benefit derived by the Dominion as a whole, in that the products sold to other countries are increasing in value. New Zealand is a seller in the rising market and a buyer in a market which is not rising nearly as much. The advantages to be derived from such a position are too obvious to require stressing.

A word of warning is necessary in regard to the appearance of the graph. It does not follow from the divergence between the curves that prices of imported articles were absolutely higher in 1891 than those of the home products; but it does mean they were *relatively* higher. The whole appearance of a graph depends on the base selected. In this instance the average of the years 1909–13 is the base, and the two price-levels were equated in that period, the remaining years being worked out proportionately relative to the base. This being the case, the curves must naturally converge in that period, and actually the quinquennial averages must coincide at 1,000 in 1911, the central year of the base period.

If the base had been the first period, 1891–95, the curves would have started from the same point and diverged, instead of converging to the same point as they do now. In later years, if the same base as is now used is kept, the lines will converge to a point at the base and then diverge again from one another.

Group 1C: Sugar.

As already stated, it has been deemed advisable to treat the retail prices of sugar separately from those of other commodities, and a table is given below which shows the course of retail sugar-prices in New Zealand.

Index Number showing the Variations in the Retail Prices of Sugar in the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand, 1891–1914.

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891	1,312	1,383	..	1,454	..
1892	1,266	1,357	..	1,448	..
1893	1,260	1,332	..	1,407	..
1894	1,227	1,297	..	1,370	..
1895	1,104	1,091	..	1,270	..
1896	1,117	1,143	..	1,203	..
1897	1,078	1,169	..	1,203	..
1898	1,078	1,123	..	1,203	..
1899	1,078	1,123	1,086	1,203	1,122
1900	1,143	1,212	1,284	1,208	1,212
1901	1,133	1,169	1,273	1,314	1,222
1902	1,075	1,143	1,091	1,203	1,128
1903	1,084	1,123	1,091	1,199	1,124
1904	1,087	1,136	1,182	1,177	1,145
1905	1,201	1,260	1,197	1,284	1,235
1906	1,117	1,195	1,169	1,175	1,179
1907	1,019	1,009	1,091	1,065	1,046
1908	851	944	974	870	910
1909	881	913	961	883	910
1910	946	987	1,003	974	978
1911	941	965	1,045	972	981
1912	1,045	1,029	1,115	1,078	1,092
1913	1,117	980	1,071	1,094	1,065
1914	983	1,055	1,145	1,025	1,052

As in the case of the prices of the five home products, retail prices of sugar show great fluctuations; but these fluctuations are rather of a different nature. Starting from a high level in 1891, prices dropped sharply till 1895, were on the whole stationary for about ten years, except for two peaks about 1901 and 1905, and then dropped very greatly and continuously till 1908–9. Since that time a sharp rise in prices has been apparent, extending up till the present time.

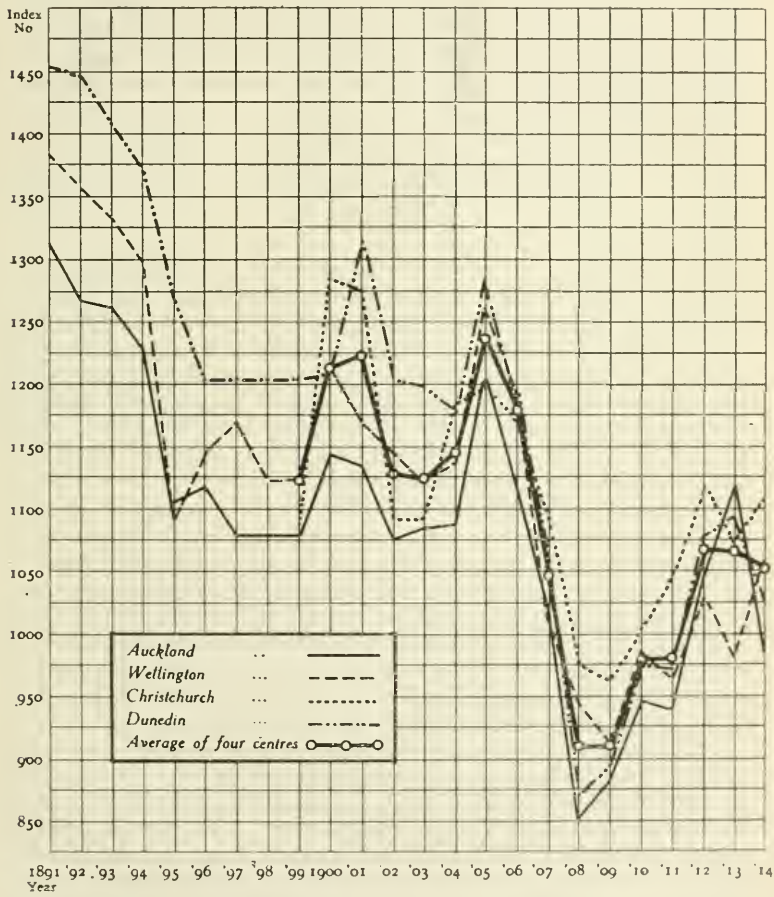
The tendency for the price-levels in the four centres to coincide is even more evident in the price of sugar than in the prices of the home-products group. Not only do the curves of prices for the four centres run parallel, but they run so closely parallel as to coincide very often. It would appear that in handling a definite commodity such as sugar a specialized general market develops more quickly than in handling small retail articles such as compose the general grocery group (1A). The development of the market seems clearer in latter than in former years, though the tendency is obscured by abnormal circumstances in 1914. Auckland, where is situated the sugar-refinery for New Zealand, as would be expected, shows the lowest level of prices in the four towns.

The general tendency of prices is so marked and so little obscured by temporary fluctuations that it has not been necessary to plot a moving average. Especially since 1905 has the movement been clear and continuous.

In 1907 the duty on sugar was removed, and the removal of this tax of ½d. per pound is the cause of the great drop in prices which culminated in 1908–9.

Graph showing the Course of Retail Prices of Sugar in the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand, 1891–1914.

(Base : Average annual aggregate expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)



Tariff Changes.

This groceries group differs materially from the other food groups and from house-rent, in that it contains many imported items. All the items in the dairy-produce group and in meat are home products; the five fluctuating items in the groceries group are also home products; but there remain a great number of commodities, comprising the great bulk of the items in the groceries group, which must be brought from overseas.

We have seen that the tendency to rise, shown by the general level of prices since 1895, is counteracted in this group in two ways. It has been demonstrated that raw foodstuffs and materials, typical of New Zealand products, tend to rise far more rapidly than imported manufactured products, where the economies of machinery and specialization tend to lower prices. The different conditions governing the extraction of primary products from the soil, and the production of utilities by manufacture, need no comment.

A second factor of particular importance here is that all these commodities which are imported have at one time or another come within the scope of the Customs tariff. In New Zealand the scope of this tariff is very wide, and import duties are levied on a great number of items of all classes of goods.

In earlier times the number of dutiable items was not as great as at present; but there has been a well-defined tariff movement since 1895. On the one hand, there has been a steady movement towards a reduction of the duties levied on imported foodstuffs, a tendency which is shown by the table of duties given below. On the other hand, there has been extension and subdivision of the tariff, particularly in regard to imported manufactured goods. Most of the items in the groceries group come under the category of foodstuffs, and it will be found that the duty payable on almost every item is reduced in the period under review.

The revision of 1895 was responsible for two changes in the items considered, the duty of 6d. per lb. on tea being reduced to 4d. per lb., and salt being made free. The year 1900, however, saw considerable remissions, tea being reduced to 2d. per lb., coffee (roasted) to 3d. per lb., raisins and currants to 1d. per lb., while the duty was removed from rice and raw coffee. In 1903 the principle of preference was introduced, and British tea was made free of duty. In 1907, the last revision, the duty was taken off sugar and unground spices, reduced on ground spices, removed from golden syrup, treacle, raisins and currants, prunes, and reduced on blue.

The effect of an import tax is normally to raise the price of the article taxed by an amount somewhere near the amount of the tax; but where the articles are manufactured goods whose relative cost decreases as the quantity made increases, the price is raised by more than the amount of the tax. Import duties raise the cost of living within a country and conversely, their reduction tends to lower the cost of living. From the table given below it will be seen that since 1891 there has been a constant tendency towards the reduction of duties on the main foodstuffs and the graph following will illustrate the action of this reduction upon the level of prices.

Import Duties.

Commodity.	1891.	1895.	1900.	1903.		1907.	
				British.	Foreign.	British.	Foreign.
Rice, per cwt.	6s.	6s.	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Sago	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Tapioca	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Tea, under 1 lb.	6d.	4d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	$2\frac{2}{5}$d.
,, 1 lb. and under 5 lb. ..	6d.	4d.	2d.	Free	2d.	2d.	$2\frac{2}{5}$d.
,, 5 lb. and over ..	6d.	4d.	2d.	Free	2d.	Free	2d.
Coffee, raw, per lb. ..	3d.	2d.	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
,, roasted, per lb. ..	5d.	5d.	3d.	3d.	3d.	3d.	$3\frac{3}{5}$d.
Cocoa, per lb.	3d.	3d.	3d.	3d.	3d.	3d.	$3\frac{3}{5}$d.
Sugar, per lb.	½d.	½d.	½d.	½d.	½d.	Free	Free
Salt, per ton	10s.	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free	Free
Pepper (unground) per lb. ..	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	Free	Free
,, (ground) per lb. ..	4d.	4d.	4d.	4d.	4d.	2d.	$2\frac{2}{5}$d.
Jam, per lb.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	$2\frac{2}{5}$d.
Honey, per lb.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.
Golden syrup, per lb. ..	½d.	½d.	½d.	½d.	½d.	Free	Free
Treacle, per lb.	½d.	½d.	½d.	½d.	½d.	Free	Free
Raisins, per lb.	2d.	2d.	1d.	1d.	1d.	Free	Free
Currants (dried), per lb. ..	2d.	2d.	1d.	1d.	1d.	Free	Free
Apricots tinned ..							
Pears, tinned ..	20%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	37½%
Peaches, tinned ..							
Prunes, dried, per lb. ..	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	Free	Free
Apricots, dried, per lb. ..	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.
Salmon, tinned, per lb. ..	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	3d.	2d.	3d.
Herrings, tinned, per lb. ..	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	3d.	2d.	3d.
Starch, per lb.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	$2\frac{2}{5}$d.
Blue, per lb.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	2d.	1d.	1d.
Soap, common, per cwt. ..	5s.	5s.	5s.	5s.	5s.	5s.	6s.
Tobacco, per lb.	3s. 6d.	3s. 6d.	3s. 6d.	3s. 6d.	3s. 6d.	3s. 6d.	3s. 6d.

The following graph has been plotted in order to illustrate the relation between the retail prices of this group and the import duties levied upon the articles comprised therein. The import duties have been calculated in the same way as the prices—the rates of duty being applied to the weights in order to gain an aggregate expenditure from which an index number may be computed.

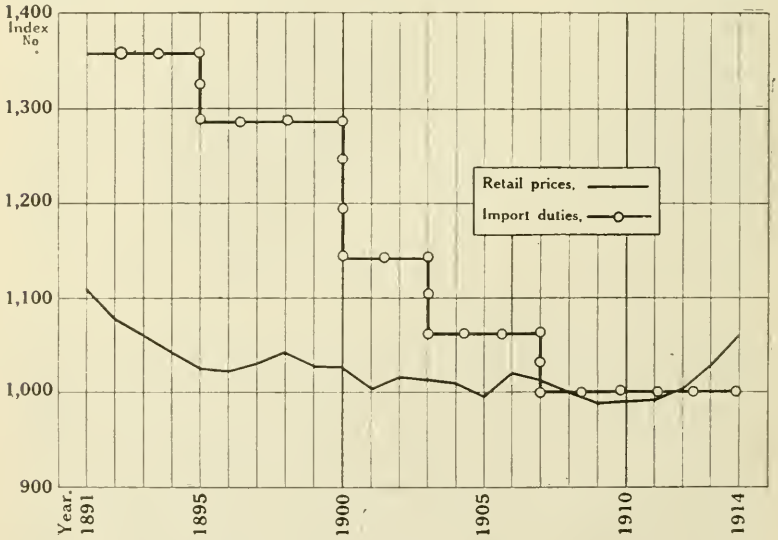
Perhaps a better illustration might be furnished by adding to the prices, all through the period, the duties which were levied at the beginning of the period, in an attempt to show what the course of prices might have been were it not for tariff alterations. But such an attempt is open to many dangers, principally because a reduction of duty, leading to lower price, may have very important effects in changing the nature or extent of consumption. To take only one instance, the preferential tariff on tea largely diverted the consumption from China tea to Ceylon. In any case, such an attempt would be merely an artificial guess at what the price might have been were it not for reductions in the tariff.

This method has therefore been discarded, and the graph represents the changes in duties compared with retail prices.

Index Numbers of Import Duties and Retail Prices of the Commodities comprised in Group Ia—General Groceries, the Average of the Four Chief Centres, 1891–1914.

(Base : Average annual aggregate expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

—	Import Duties.	Retail Prices.	—	Import Duties.	Retail Prices.
1891 ..	1,358	1,101	1903 ..	1,062	1,014
1892 ..	1,358	1,076	1904 ..	1,062	1,009
1893 ..	1,358	1,060	1905 ..	1,062	997
1894 ..	1,358	1,043	1906 ..	1,062	1,022
1895 ..	1,285	1,025	1897 ..	1,000	1,014
1896 ..	1,285	1,023	1908 ..	1,000	1,000
1897 ..	1,285	1,031	1909 ..	1,000	986
1898 ..	1,285	1,041	1910 ..	1,000	990
1899 ..	1,285	1,027	1911 ..	1,000	992
1900 ..	1,140	1,025	1912 ..	1,000	1,002
1901 ..	1,140	1,003	1913 ..	1,000	1,029
1902 ..	1,140	1,021	1914 ..	1,000	1,063

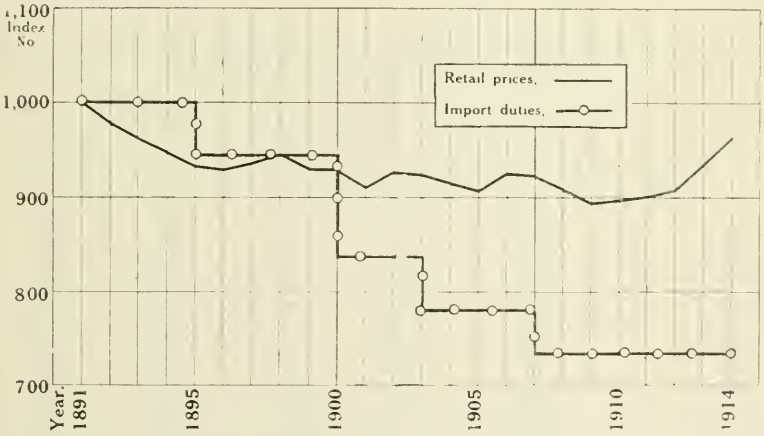


In the preceding graph the figures have been based on the average of the years 1909–13, in accordance with the procedure followed throughout this inquiry ; but for the purpose of illustrating the connection between retail prices and import duties in this period it will be found more useful to consider a graph based on 1891. The levels of prices and import duties are therefore equated to 1,000 in that year, and starting from a common point it is easier to trace the connection and divergence over the period.

Index Numbers of Import Duties and Retail Prices of the Commodities comprised in Group 1a—General Groceries—in the Average of the Four Chief Centres, 1891–1914.

(Base: Average aggregate expenditure four chief centres, 1891 = 1,000.)

—	Import Duties.	Retail Prices.	—	Import Duties.	Retail Prices.
1891 ..	1,000	1,000	1903 ..	782	921
1892 ..	1,000	977	1904 ..	782	916
1893 ..	1,000	963	1905 ..	782	906
1894 ..	1,000	947	1906 ..	782	928
1895 ..	946	931	1907 ..	736	921
1896 ..	946	929	1908 ..	756	908
1897 ..	946	936	1909 ..	736	896
1898 ..	946	946	1910 ..	736	899
1899 ..	946	933	1911 ..	736	901
1900 ..	839	931	1912 ..	736	910
1901 ..	839	911	1913 ..	736	935
1902 ..	839	927	1914 ..	736	965



The first obvious feature of the graph given above is the consistent downward tendency of import duties. Since 1891 every revision of the tariff has been in the direction of removing the import taxes on foodstuffs, a fact which is well illustrated here. In addition, the duty has been removed from sugar and kerosene, remissions which, though not strictly applicable here, affect very important commodities.

A comparison of the two curves is very illuminating. Taking the curve of prices, it will be found that in accordance with the general level of prices the curve drops from 1891–95. A reduction in the tariff of 1895 is

followed by a slight drop in prices in 1896; but this is succeeded by an immediate tendency to rise. Thereafter it is very noticeable that the prices are generally tending upward; but successive tariff reductions cause declines in the price-level. The drop in prices after 1900 is succeeded by a rise in 1901–2; prices dropped again after 1903, to rise again in 1905; drop again in 1906, and rise from 1909 onward. When the tariff remains unchanged for any length of time prices soon begin to rise, and this is especially evident in later years.

It would seem, then, that the reduction of duties upon foods, by removing the artificial increase in price which follows such taxation, has constantly tended to counteract a rising price-level.

GROUP II.—DAIRY-PRODUCE, 1891–1914.

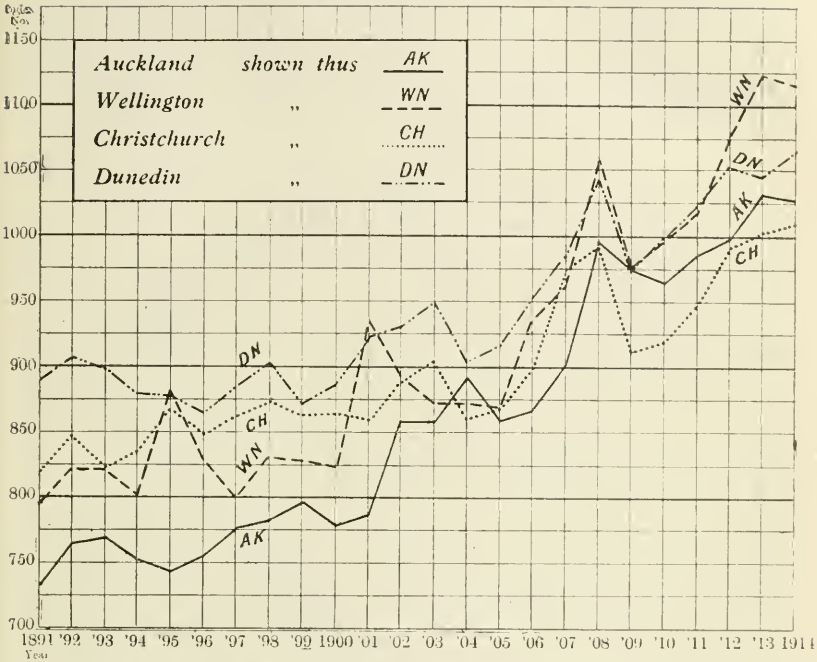
The second group selected is much more homogeneous than the first, and is especially interesting in its relation to New Zealand from the fact that it touches both producers and consumers. There are two chief commodities—milk and butter—which between them usually represent about 70 per cent. of the total expenditure of the group, and are themselves of approximately equal importance. The other commodities are eggs, cheese, two kinds of bacon, and ham.

Index Numbers for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and for Average of Four Centres for each Year 1891–1914.

(Base: Average aggregate annual expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13=1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891.. ..	732	795	819	879	**806**
1892.. ..	764	822	847	905	**835**
1893.. ..	769	822	824	898	**828**
1894.. ..	752	803	834	878	**817**
1895.. ..	743	882	867	877	**842**
1896.. ..	755	829	849	865	**825**
1897.. ..	776	799	861	885	**830**
1898.. ..	781	831	873	901	**847**
1899.. ..	796	829	863	870	**840**
1900.. ..	778	824	864	884	**838**
1901.. ..	787	935	859	923	**876**
1902.. ..	858	893	887	930	**892**
1903.. ..	860	873	904	949	**897**
1904.. ..	892	872	860	905	**882**
1905.. ..	859	869	868	916	**878**
1906.. ..	868	936	899	951	**914**
1907.. ..	902	961	973	984	**955**
1908.. ..	993	1,057	991	1,038	**1,020**
1909.. ..	974	975	912	972	**958**
1910.. ..	965	996	920	997	**970**
1911.. ..	986	1,018	948	1,021	**993**
1912.. ..	998	1,076	992	1,052	**1,029**
1913.. ..	1,028	1,124	1,003	1,044	**1,050**
1914.. ..	1,026	1,117	1,010	1,064	**1,054**

Graphs showing Relative Prices of Dairy-produce, 1891–1914.



Explanation of Graphs.—The base of each small square represents a year's interval, and the vertical height differences of 25 in the index numbers.

A comparison of this group with the previous group shows that the course of prices is different in a great many respects. There does not seem the same tendency for the price-levels of the four centres to run together, though their general direction is, of course, similar. Still, they show considerable local divergence from the average.

The averages of the index numbers for the twenty-four years 1891–1914 are—Auckland, 860; Christchurch, 897; Wellington, 914; and Dunedin, 944. So that Auckland has shown the cheapest prices of dairy-produce in this period, the difference probably being due to the different system of marketing.

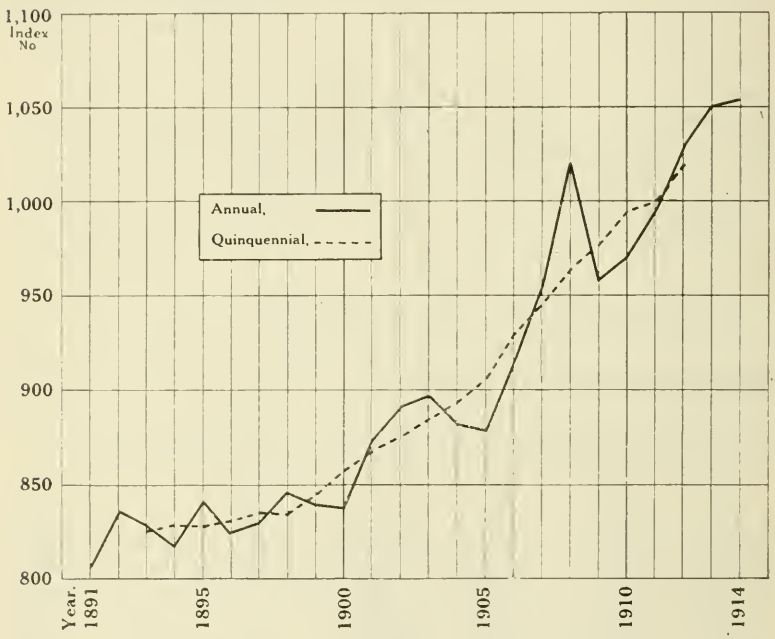
It is natural to expect that the prices of dairy-products would rise consistently over this period, and the graph given above shows a general tendency in this direction. The feature of the graph is the very high peak in 1908, followed by a big drop in 1909.

In order to make this general tendency clearer, a moving average has been plotted on the same graph as an annual average of the four centres. The annual line eliminates local variations, and the quinquennial line eliminates both local and temporary fluctuations.

The result is a very smooth curve which shows out very clearly the steady and rapid rise in prices, especially since 1898. The annual curve fluctuates irregularly in the early years; but since about 1900 the fluctuations round the average assume a much more regular form. It would appear here again that a decrease in prices was due in 1915; but actually prices have increased owing to the war.

Graph of Annual and Quinquennial Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Dairy-products.

(Average of four centres, 1891–1914.)



Exports and Retail Prices.

It is interesting at this stage of the inquiry to notice the connection of prices of dairy-produce with the exports of butter and cheese from the Dominion. It is a commonplace that the price for New Zealand foodstuffs is largely regulated by the prices obtained for exports in the London market; but it is worth while to endeavour to ascertain the extent and nature of the connection between retail prices and exports.

The fact that retail prices are being considered must always be borne in mind, because retail prices are slower to move, and in every way show less connection with conditions of production than do wholesale prices. It is probable that wholesale prices of butter would show a much higher correlation with exports than is disclosed below.

The retail prices, moreover, are those of the whole group of dairy-products, not all of which are exports. It has therefore been necessary to correlate the index number of prices for the whole seven commodities with the exports of butter and cheese only. It is, however, reasonable to assume that the price of a commodity like milk will vary in the same direction as butter and cheese, though it will undoubtedly be more conservative and thus lower the figure obtained for correlation.

It is therefore to be expected that the connection disclosed will be a good deal lower than it would probably be if wholesale prices of butter were compared with exports; but the direction of the correlation is important. A mere inspection of the data can yield no accurate measure of association between any two series of figures, and it becomes necessary to use a mathematical measurement of the extent to which they vary in common. Professor Karl Pearson has evolved a formula which, by measuring the deviations from the average in each series, and calculating the extent to which these deviations vary together, gives a reliable indication of the connection between the series.*

In this formula r, the coefficient or measure of correlation, always lies between $+1$ and -1. A coefficient of $+1$ would show perfect direct correlation—that is, that the two series varied in the same direction, in exactly the same proportion. A result of -1 would show perfect inverse correlation—that is, that the two series varied in opposite directions in the same proportion. A result of 0 would show that there was no connection whatever; but it is generally recognized that a connection is undoubted whenever the coefficient exceeds ·3, and is considerably greater than the probable error involved.

In the present case retail prices of dairy-products have been correlated with the quantity of butter and cheese exported for each year during the period 1891–1914. The coefficient obtained is $-\cdot416 \pm$ a probable error of ·028. From this figure the following conclusions may be drawn:—

(1.) That the variations in retail prices of dairy-products have an undoubted connection with the fluctuations of exports of butter and cheese from year to year.

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* The coefficient of correlation is based on the standard deviation from the average of each series. In this case a moving quinquennial average has been calculated for prices and for exports, and the deviations from this average are noted for each successive year. These deviations are squared, and the sum of the squares is divided by the number of the items involved. The square root of the result thus obtained gives the standard deviation of the series in question, and is denoted by the sign σ. In the formula given below, σ_1 and σ_2 represent the standard deviations of the two series to be compared.

Professor Pearson's formula is usually represented algebraically as $r = \frac{\Sigma(xy)}{n\,\sigma_1\,\sigma_2}$ where r is the coefficient which is to be determined, x and y are the deviations from the average, n is the number of items in each series, and σ_1 and σ_2 are the standard deviations. The method of compilation, therefore, is to multiply each pair of deviations from the average (xy), add the products to give the result $\Sigma(xy)$, and divide this by the product of the three factors given above, n the number of terms, and σ_1 and σ_2 the standard deviations previously obtained.

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The coefficient is fairly high, especially when it is remembered that retail prices are sluggish, and slow to be influenced by delicate changes in the wholesale trade, and also that the inclusion of other commodities, like milk, tends to make the connection indirect and the coefficient correspondingly low.

(2.) The correlation, it will be seen, is inverse, not direct.

It is not contended that the great increase in exports since 1891 has lowered retail prices in New Zealand; such a position is obviously false. The coming of refrigeration opened to New Zealand a world market, and prices went beyond local control. Since 1895 prices in the world market have been steadily rising, and New Zealand retail prices follow the general tendency.

But this inverse figure of correlation brings out an interesting feature of the case by showing the connection between the *fluctuations* of the series. In a year when exports are bigger than usual, prices are lower than usual. It is, of course, obvious that a specially good year, resulting in increased production, will not only release greater quantities for export, but will tend to lower prices in the home market. The true position seems to be, then, that the world level of prices is largely beyond our control; but it is possible to increase production in New Zealand, and every increase in production brings two rewards to the Dominion—a bigger share of the world market for the producer, and for the consumer an increased supply and a tendency to retard the rise in prices.

A word of explanation is perhaps necessary to emphasize that it is productivity which is the key to the whole position. The figure taken for exports was the quantity, not the value, so that changes in the actual production only were considered. It is obvious that a great deal of the increased value of exports in recent years simply represents higher prices, and therefore it might reasonably be expected that an increase in export values would go side by side with higher prices at home. The influence of this factor in the values does operate to reduce the correlation from —·416 to —·30: but even then it will be seen that the correlation is still inverse.

There is another interesting aspect of the butter-market which calls for notice here. New Zealand is in a peculiar position with regard to her great neighbour, Australia. Both countries produce similar commodities in almost every respect; but the conditions of production differ materially. In the days of the gold-rushes Australia drew from this country a great deal of the produce which was neglected in her own land: and, indeed, until the development of direct steamer communication with the United Kingdom, Australia controlled a great part of New Zealand's trade, both import and export.

In the case of butter especially, Australia was, before refrigeration came in 1882, the only possible outlet for New Zealand's surplus produce; and even here the trade was hazardous, since, it has been pointed out, the butter was liable to attain queer flavours on the voyage over.

Even in the period since refrigeration Australia has at different times taken from the Dominion fairly great quantities of butter. While the

annual production in New Zealand is remarkably steady and very little affected by adverse seasons, Australia is peculiarly liable to cyclical fluctuations of industry, and in particular to droughts. When, for any cause of this kind, the supply of butter runs short in Australia it is natural that the Dominion should take advantage of the high prices offering and export some of her produce to Australia. This has been the case on several occasions within the last few years, and particularly in the year just past.

These extraordinary exports to Australia from the unusual nature of their demand, always tend to raise the New Zealand price of butter, and it is therefore interesting to work out a coefficient of correlation between the exports of butter to Australia and the retail price of dairy-products in New Zealand.

The coefficient, calculated in the same way as previously, gives a result of $+\cdot329 \pm$ a probable error of $\cdot030$. The same limitations arising from the inclusion of other commodities and the consideration of retail—not wholesale—prices, tend to lower the figure arrived at. As before, a connection, though slight, is established; but in this case the connection is not inverse, but direct.

When there is greater export to Australia than usual, prices tend to rise.

The fact that this correlation is opposite in tendency from that obtained by calculating together prices and total exports shows that the connection is different. The explanation seems to be that the export to Australia is an unusual export, almost entirely dependent on climatic conditions in Australia, an extraordinary demand which detracts from the home supply. The export to the United Kingdom is permanent and steady, and does not cause fluctuations in prices in the same way as does the Australian demand.

While considering the influence of unusual demands from Australia on the price of our dairy-products, it is worth while to emphasize that the prices of dairy-products do not show any definite tendency to a cyclical movement. It has been seen that prices of certain agricultural foods show a well-marked cycle of prices; but this is absent in dairy-products. Further, an attempt at correlation between the prices of the two groups resulted in a coefficient of only $+\cdot095 \pm$ a probable error of $\cdot033$, and the small figure shows that there is no connection between the two series. It is therefore evident that the prices of dairy-products are dependent on different causes from those which influence the prices of flour, bread, bran, &c.

The two groups are dissimilar mainly as regards their market, and it is here that the explanation of their different courses of prices may be found. As stated above, the export of butter and cheese is steady and great, and the retail price in New Zealand is in the long-run dependent largely on the wholesale price in London. Agricultural produce, however, is almost wholly restricted to the local market, and this restriction of market is seen in the big and regular fluctuations of prices.

GROUP III.—MEAT.

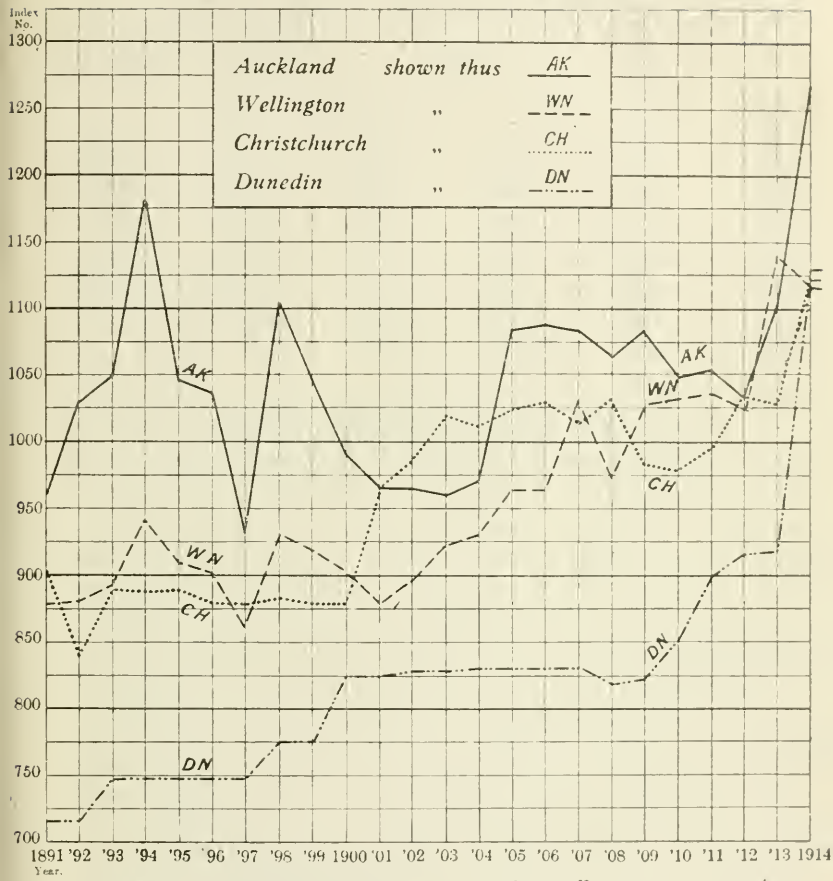
The third food group, meat, is more homogeneous than the other two, and it has been noticeable in working up the data that increases or decreases in price are spread very uniformly over the different items. Nine cuts of beef are included, with a total weight of 1,165 assigned to them, and five cuts of mutton, with a total weight of 949. Though New Zealand is so essentially a sheep-growing country, it has been found that the annual consumption of beef is greater than that of mutton, and the prices are weighted accordingly. These two groups cover the bulk of the expenditure on meat. There are, besides, four cuts of pork weighted at 86, two kinds of sausages weighted at 98, and tripe with a weight of 28.

Index Numbers for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and for Average of Four Centres for each Year, 1891–1914.

(Base: Average aggregate annual expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 =1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891.. ..	960	879	901	715	**864**
1892.. ..	1,029	881	838	715	**866**
1893.. ..	1,050	894	889	749	**896**
1894.. ..	1,179	941	888	749	**939**
1895.. ..	1,044	910	889	749	**898**
1896.. ..	1,036	901	880	749	**892**
1897.. ..	929	862	879	749	**855**
1898.. ..	1,106	928	884	775	**923**
1899.. ..	1,046	919	879	775	**905**
1900.. ..	989	903	879	825	**899**
1901.. ..	966	878	966	825	**909**
1902.. ..	966	893	987	830	**919**
1903.. ..	961	921	1,019	830	**933**
1904.. ..	970	928	1,012	831	**935**
1905.. ..	1,083	963	1,024	831	**975**
1906.. ..	1,086	963	1,027	831	**977**
1907.. ..	1,083	1,030	1,013	831	**989**
1908.. ..	1,064	973	1,031	817	**971**
1909.. ..	1,084	1,026	984	824	**980**
1910.. ..	1,047	1,029	980	851	**977**
1911.. ..	1,052	1,034	995	900	**995**
1912.. ..	1,033	1,024	1,034	915	**1,001**
1913.. ..	1,104	1,139	1,027	917	**1,047**
1914.. ..	1,266	1,116	1,121	1,127	**1,158**

Graphs showing Relative Prices of Meat, 1891–1914.



Explanation of Graphs.—The base of each small square represents a year's interval, and the vertical height differences of 25 in the index numbers.

A striking feature of the graph showing relative prices of meat in the four centres is the great disparity shown in the price-levels of the four centres. Auckland is consistently and greatly above the other centres, and Dunedin is almost as far below. The averages of the four centres for the twenty-four years are—Auckland 1,047, Christchurch, 959, Wellington 956, and Dunedin 821; and the divergence is very noticeable. Auckland prices are also marked by very considerable fluctuations all through the period, while Dunedin is again steadier.

In order to show up the general trend of prices it is advisable to plot a graph showing the annual and quinquennial averages of the four centres.

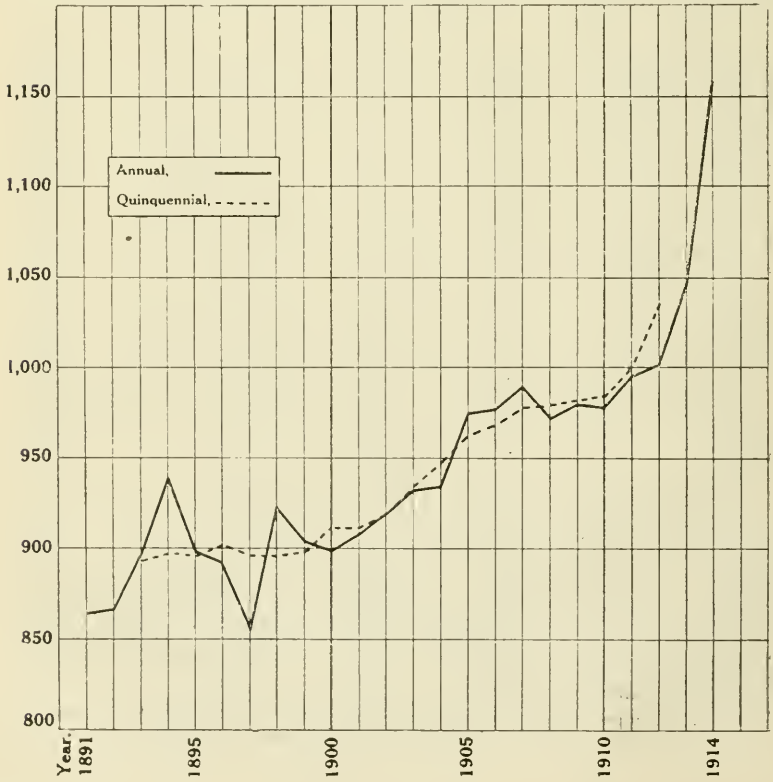
Annual and Quinquennial Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Meat in the Average of the Four Chief Centres, 1891 to 1914.

(Base: Annual average aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Annual.	Quinquennial.	Year.	Annual.	Quinquennial.
1891	864	..	1903	933	935
1892	866	..	1904	935	948
1893	896	893	1905	975	962
1894	939	898	1906	977	969
1895	898	896	1907	989	978
1896	892	901	1908	971	979
1897	855	895	1909	980	982
1898	923	895	1910	977	985
1899	905	898	1911	995	1,000
1900	899	911	1912	1,001	1,036
1901	909	913	1913	1,047	..
1902	919	919	1914	1,158	..

Graph of Annual and Quinquennial Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Meat in the Average of the Four Chief Centres, 1891–1914.

(Base: Annual average aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)



A consideration of the average prices in the four chief centres, by eliminating local fluctuations, brings out more clearly the general trend of prices over the whole period. It will be seen that there is considerable fluctuation in the early years of the period, and it is notorious that these years saw a great disturbance of industry in the Dominion.

As in the case of butter and cheese, there is a continuous and rapid rise in prices since 1895. This rise in retail prices is, of course, in sympathy with the inflation of export values, due to a rise in the world price of meat. Especially noticeable is the very great rise in prices since 1912, a rise which is in evidence in each of the four towns. In two years retail prices of meat rose more than in the twenty years previously, and this increase cannot be attributed wholly to the war, since owing to lack of shipping meat-prices have been retarded since the war. In twenty-two years from 1891 to 1912 retail prices of meat rose from 864 to 1,001, an increase of nearly 16 per cent.; by 1914 the index number had reached 1,158, representing an increase since 1891 of nearly 34 per cent.

It will be shown later in this report that disorganization of shipping checked rising prices in the early months of 1915; but an opposite tendency has since reasserted itself.

It is known that all over the world there is a comparative scarcity of live-stock—that the numbers of animals have not increased in proportion to the demand for them—and this has been the chief factor in raising the price of meat and of wool and other animal products so considerably of late years. This tendency to rising prices of animal products has been very beneficial to New Zealand as a producing country; but it carries with it, too, a tendency to increase retail prices and the cost of living. But the huge increase of meat-prices in the last two or three years is out of proportion to the advance of the world-price of meat, and suggests local causes.

In order to throw light on the price-movements of this group an attempt has been made at correlation with the quantity of frozen meat exported from year to year; but the figure of correlation obtained was so low that it is evident that retail prices have not varied according to variations in exports.

A further attempt at correlation with the prices of dairy-produce had the same result, the resulting coefficient being so small as to be negligible. The conclusion is that fluctuations of retail prices of meat in New Zealand are governed largely by local causes, that fluctuations in exports do not affect the course of retail prices, and that the local causes are peculiar to the meat trade and do not have any connection with the variations in the price of dairy-produce.

THREE FOOD GROUPS.

The articles which have been considered so far in this inquiry have been grouped under the headings of Groceries, Dairy-produce, and Meat; but the first group really consists of three sub-groups following different laws. It is well, therefore, to consider these five kinds of commodities in contrast before combining them as an indication of the prices of food-stuffs. Especially as regards markets, the differences exhibited by these five groups, imported groceries, local agricultural products, sugar, dairy-products, and meat, are very interesting and instructive.

Imported Groceries.

In this group (1A) alone, is the supply dependent on imports from overseas, a fact which naturally renders its course of prices subject to different influences. The supply is gathered from various sources all over the world, tea from Ceylon, rice, sago, and tapioca from the Eastern countries, raisins and currants from the Levant, manufactures from the markets of Europe and America; and whatever the source, New Zealand buyers have to compete in what is practically a world-market. So that the import price into New Zealand is determined largely by influences outside the control of the Dominion.

Most of the importing is done by wholesale merchants who carry large stocks and supply to the smaller retailers. Some of the bigger grocery establishments import direct; but generally the returns of prices received show little divergence between these bigger shops and the smaller retailers. The retail price, which has been the subject of this inquiry, must not, therefore, be confused either with the import price or with the wholesale price in the Dominion.

The fact of supplies being brought from overseas, too, inevitably brings in the factor of Customs duties, and it has been shown that continual reductions in tariff have operated to keep down the level of prices of these commodities.

Five Home Products.

Group 1B consists of five items of agricultural produce, or foods directly made up from agricultural products, and all the five items—bread, flour, oatmeal, potatoes, and onions—are produced in the Dominion.

Early in the history of the Dominion the agricultural industry was of far greater relative importance than now, and the export of grain and potatoes represented a very considerable proportion of the total exports. But the proportion of this export has steadily decreased, till at the present time New Zealand has a surplus for export in exceptionally good years only. Normally, however, the supply of these products comes wholly from the soil of the Dominion, and imports are never a serious factor. The market, too, is usually confined to the Dominion, and exports, it has been shown, do not usually influence prices. The demand as well as the supply is self-contained. It follows that prices depend, normally, upon conditions of demand and supply in the Dominion itself.

It has been repeatedly stated that the price of produce in New Zealand depends on the Australian market; but this investigation has not altogether supported that idea. It would seem, from a comparison of Australian and New Zealand conditions, that Australian demand influences New Zealand only when there is a surplus available for export. The dominating influence in variations of price in New Zealand will be found in the cyclical movement of production which is evident. It requires no elaborate argument to show that where such important commodities fluctuate in prices owing to varying conditions largely within local control it is important that the fullest and most accurate statistics should be available for the information both of the trade and of the public.

Sugar.

The sugar used in New Zealand consists almost wholly of the local product manufactured from raw material derived from Fiji cane—the amount of Java, Mauritius, or beet-sugar from Europe is quite negligible. Over half a million tons of raw sugar are imported each year from Fiji and refined in the local refinery at Auckland. Practically the whole of this quantity is consumed in the Dominion, since the exports are quite small from year to year. The supply and demand, therefore, may both be said to be quite local and concentrated.

Dairy-products and Meat.

Both the two latter groups may be taken together, since they follow similar conditions in respect to production and consumption. Both groups are produced almost entirely in the Dominion itself; imports are very abnormal, and are usually either returned exports or speculative purchases.

The production of these groups, however, is not merely for a small local market, as in the case of agricultural products, but there is a continual surplus of exports, and, indeed, the home consumption is a very small fraction of the total amount produced.

MARKETS.

In the present inquiry retail prices are under consideration, and therefore information has been obtained from retail dealers in the commodities specified. Most of the commodities comprised in the first two groups, groceries and dairy-produce, reach the consumer through the hands of the retail grocer, and therefore the prices of these commodities have been obtained from this source. Bread and milk are usually retailed direct to the consumer, and the prices of these commodities, together with those for the fuel-and-light group, have been ascertained by the Inspectors of Factories and forwarded by them to the Statistical Office. The prices of meat have been obtained from retail butchers in the various centres.

Though it is impossible within the limits of this report to enter fully into a discussion of the systems of marketing the various commodities, since the practice differs with different commodities and in the various centres, yet the following general remarks may serve to indicate the usual course of the commodities from producer to consumer.

Imported groceries usually reach the retail grocers through the wholesale general merchant, who carries large stocks from which the retailers draw supplies. Some of the larger grocers, however, in the big centres especially, import direct. A great many commodities, too, are indented by commission merchants on behalf of the retailers, or are sold "to arrive."

Flour is often supplied by the mills direct to grocers and bakers; but a large quantity is sold on commission through agents in the various centres. Potatoes and onions are sometimes sold direct to the consumer by the grower, and sometimes the retailers deal direct with the growers; but usually the supply comes through wholesale merchants.

The output of butter and cheese from the factories is mostly exported, and only a small proportion remains in the Dominion The co-operative

factories, with their skimming-stations, are a feature of the dairying industry, and the suppliers usually share in the management and control of the business. In some centres the factories market their own proprietary brands of butter direct to the retailers, while in others the retailers obtain their supplies through the wholesale merchants.

The retail price of meat is also affected by the fact that most of this produce of New Zealand is exported. The connection between the prices for export and for home consumption is seen in the live-stock market. The meat is exported frozen, and the exporting firms send their representatives over the countryside and buy up the majority of the stock out of the paddocks, on the hoof. On occasion, these firms also compete in the local sales of live-stock, which are held periodically.

In some centres the exporting companies also enter into the retail trade and maintain shops in the local towns. The retail butcher in some centres buys from the big meat companies, but more generally he purchases live-stock from the local sales.

Three Food Groups combined.

In combining the groups discussed above, care has been taken to give each group its proper economic importance. The method used is a continuation of the aggregate expenditure method followed in making up the index numbers for each group. The aggregate expenditures, not the index numbers, have been combined, so that the result is weighted automatically.

Three Food Groups, 1891–1914.

Index Numbers for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and for Average of Four Centres for each Year, 1891–1914.

(Base: Average aggregate annual expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891.. ..	925	924	*	890	*
1892.. ..	937	918	*	890	*
1893.. ..	968	941	*	894	*
1894.. ..	990	933	*	872	*
1895.. ..	923	935	*	856	*
1896.. ..	934	910	*	867	*
1897.. ..	916	895	*	885	*
1898.. ..	989	967	*	923	*
1899.. ..	931	907	897	848	**896**
1900.. ..	921	910	914	878	**906**
1901.. ..	926	930	948	909	**928**
1902.. ..	957	963	962	935	**954**
1903.. ..	946	946	960	930	**946**
1904.. ..	947	945	952	894	**935**
1905.. ..	1,033	982	992	951	**990**
1906.. ..	1,036	1,015	997	965	**1,003**
1907.. ..	1,031	1,008	989	943	**993**
1908.. ..	1,030	1,011	996	940	**994**
1909.. ..	1,026	997	943	922	**972**
1910.. ..	1,023	1,016	960	965	**991**
1911.. ..	1,006	1,011	958	957	**983**
1912.. ..	1,032	1,031	1,004	1,000	**1,017**
1913.. ..	1,069	1,089	995	997	**1,037**
1914.. ..	1,114	1,119	1,067	1,094	**1,098**

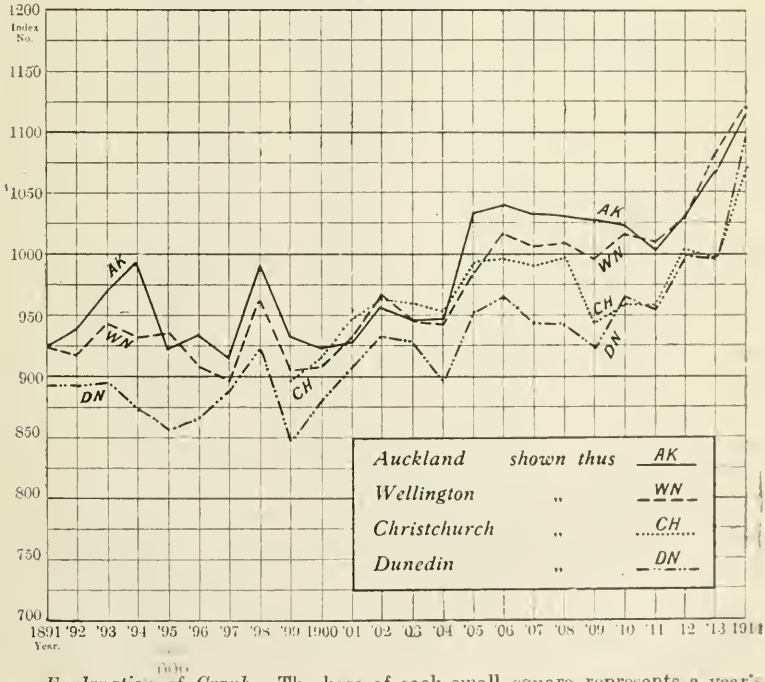
* Groceries figures not available for Christchurch prior to 1899.

The main feature of the graph representing the relative prices of the three food groups in combination is the striking uniformity of movement displayed in the four centres. In nearly every change of price-level the direction of the movement is similar, though the extent, of course, varies fairly considerably. There is a distinct reflection of the cyclical movement which was noticed in the agricultural products.

The cost of foodstuffs seems generally to be least in Dunedin throughout the period, and greatest in Auckland. The averages of the index numbers in Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin for the twenty-four years are 984, 972, and 924. For the sixteen years commencing with 1899 the averages are—Auckland 1,002, Wellington 994, Christchurch 971, and Dunedin 944. Both Auckland and Dunedin owe their positions to the relative prices of meat. It will be remembered that Christchurch is cheapest for imported groceries and for the five agricultural products, Auckland for sugar and for dairy-products, and Dunedin for meat.

Following the same practice as in the groups separately treated above, an annual and quinquennial index number has been compiled to show the average course of food-prices in the four centres. In compiling this index number it has been necessary, as in the case of groceries, to leave Christchurch prices of that group out of consideration in the period 1891–99, but prices of meat and dairy-products are the complete average of the four centres.

Graphs showing Relative Prices of the Three Food Groups, in Combination, 1891–1914.



Explanation of Graph.—The base of each small square represents a year's interval, and the vertical height differences of 25 in the index numbers.

Table showing Annual and Quinquennial Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Foodstuffs (three Food Groups in combination) in the Average of the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand, 1891–1914.

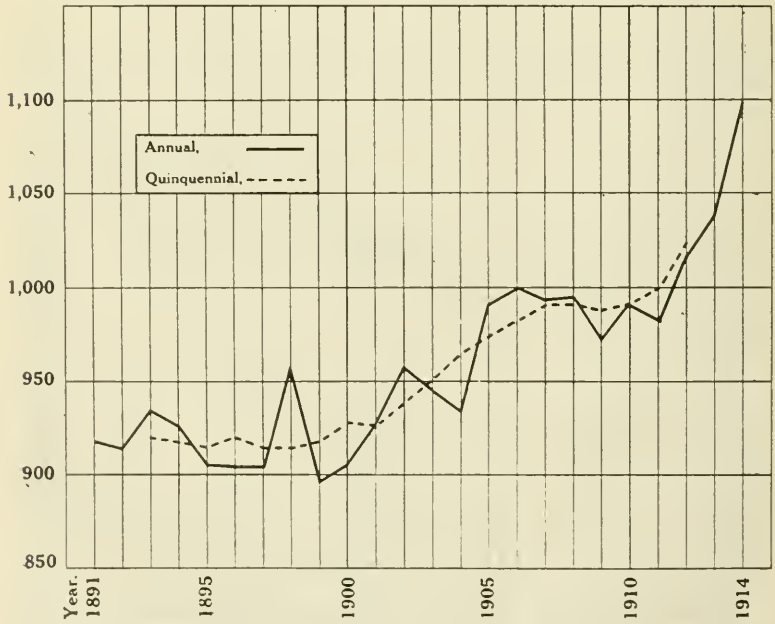
(Base : Average annual aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1000.)

Year.	Annual.	Quinquennial.	Year.	Annual.	Quinquennial.
1891	918	..	1903	946	951
1892	913	..	1904	935	965
1893	934	920	1905	990	973
1894	927	917	1906	1,000	982
1895	906	915	1907	993	990
1896	904	920	1908	994	990
1897	904	914	1909	972	987
1898	958	914	1910	991	991
1899	896	918	1911	983	1,000
1900	906	928	1912	1,017	1,025
1901	928	926	1913	1,037	..
1902	954	934	1914	1,098	..

NOTE.—From 1891–98, inclusive, the index shown is the average of Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin, in groceries.

Graph of Annual and Quinquennial Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Foodstuffs in the average of the Four Centres, 1891–1914.

(Base : Average annual aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)



It will be seen that the price-level of foodstuffs was falling till 1897; but since then a steady rise is apparent. From 1907 till 1911 there was a decided check in the rise, mainly reflected in the drop of 1909. Since 1911, however, there has been a considerable rise, especially in 1914. From 1891 to 1911 the price of food rose on the average about 7 per cent., by 1914 the increase was nearly 20 per cent., and 1915 saw a further heavy increase.

For purposes of comparison, a table is added showing the index number for each year, taking the previous year as base, and thus showing the increase or decrease per cent. from year to year.

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Foodstuffs in the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand from 1891–1914, basing the Index Number of Prices for each Year upon the Previous Year.

Year.	Index.	Increase per Cent.	Decrease per Cent.
1891	1,000	—	—
1892	995	..	0·5
1893	1,023	2·3	..
1894	993	..	0·7
1895	977	..	2·3
1896	998	..	0·2
1897	1,000	—	—
1898	1,060	6·0	..
1899	935	..	6·5
1900	1,011	1·1	..
1901	1,024	2·4	..
1902	1,028	2·8	..
1903	992	..	0·8
1904	988	..	1·2
1905	1,059	5·9	..
1906	1,010	1·0	..
1907	993	..	0·7
1908	1,001	0·1	..
1909	978	..	2·2
1910	1,020	2·0	..
1911	992	..	0·8
1912	1,035	3·5	..
1913	1,020	2·0	..
1914	1,059	5·9	..

In the table just given the percentage increase or decrease is based only on the previous year, and the resultant figures are perhaps apt to appear misleading. When there is a succession of increases or decreases it must be remembered that the effect is cumulative, or equal to compound interest. However, a table is given below which bases the index numbers on the prices for 1891, and thus shows the percentage increase of each year over 1891.

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Foodstuffs in the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand from 1891–1914.

(Base: Average aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1891 = 1,000.)

Year.	Index Number.	Increase per Cent. over 1891.	Decrease per Cent. over 1891.	Year.	Index Number.	Increase per Cent. over 1891.	Decrease per Cent. over 1891.
1891	1,000	—	—	1903	1,031	3·1	..
1892	995	..	0·5	1904	1,019	1·9	..
1893	1,017	1·7	..	1905	1,078	7·8	..
1894	1,010	1·0	..	1906	1,089	8·9	..
1895	987	..	1·3	1907	1,082	8·2	..
1896	985	..	1·5	1908	1,083	8·3	..
1897	985	..	1·5	1909	1,059	5·9	..
1898	1,044	4·4	..	1910	1,080	8·0	..
1899	976	..	2·4	1911	1,071	7·1	..
1900	987	..	1·3	1912	1,108	10·8	..
1901	1,011	1·1	..	1913	1,130	13·0	..
1902	1,039	3·9	..	1914	1,196	19·6	..

GROUP IV.—HOUSE-RENT.

Statistics of house-rent were collected from house agents in the four centres for each year from 1891 to 1914. As in every inquiry into retail prices, difficulty was experienced in the collection of reliable data; but the information obtained has been sufficient to establish a definite tendency over the whole period, though comparisons of short periods may not be so reliable.

The item of house-rent in family expenditure is so important that no investigation which omits it can be considered as approaching a complete treatment of the subject of the cost of living. But house-accommodation is by no means as easy of measurement as are definite commodities, such as the grocery items, and any measurement must be an average.

To start with the kind of house, the number of rooms must be stated, and the various classes of houses in this respect, from three to nine rooms, have been separated. The question of conveniences arises, too: is the house to have a bathroom and a scullery? Variations of rent between city and suburban houses, and according to advantages of site, to the possession or lack of a garden—these variations are infinite and impossible to measure. In one town there seem to be two definite classes of houses—old buildings, and new houses in a recently settled suburb. The high rents of Wellington and Napier, too, are paid for houses with less ground attached, a fact which emphasizes the disparity in house-rents between these and other towns.

Then, too, in New Zealand a great and increasing number of all classes of people own their own homes, and this tendency is helped on by State action in lending money at low rates of interest and on easy terms through the Advances to Settlers and Advances to Workers Departments, as well

as by the provision of workers' dwellings. To a great and growing proportion of the population house-rent is resolved rather into the cost of upkeep, rates, and interest on mortgages owing, and the reduction of liabilities in connection with ownership of their own homes.

Very many tenants, again, do not bargain for weekly rents, but lease their homes for a year or a term of years at a fixed rent, which, though paid weekly or monthly, does not change over the period of the lease. Both these factors of ownership and leasehold tend to make the effect of temporary changes in rent less direct.

Even among those who rent their homes on a weekly tenancy the influence of custom tends to keep the movement of rent conservative and slow. There is a big customary element, and rents are adjusted rather on the changes of tenancy than during occupation.

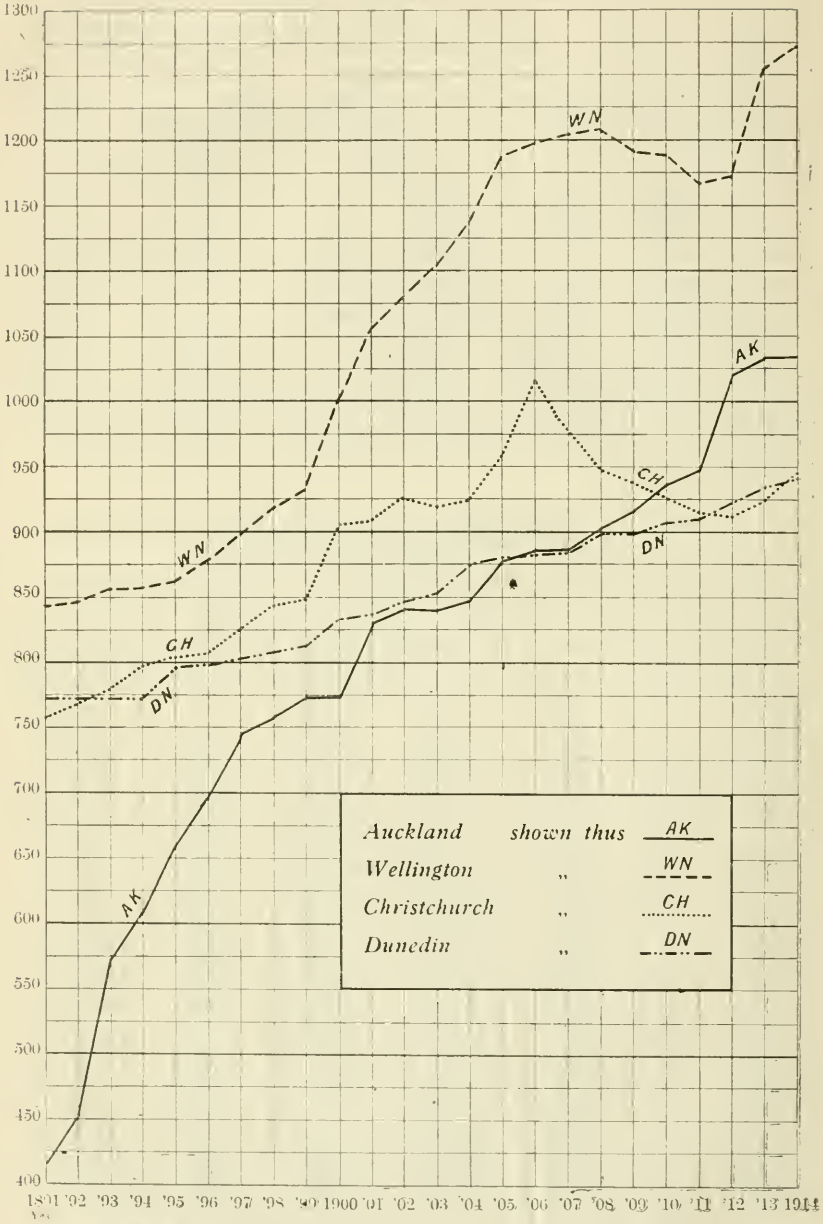
But over a long period of years such as is considered here such temporary influences are largely eliminated, and it may fairly be claimed that, by taking average rents of average houses in the method previously explained, a reliable indication may be gained of the general tendency of house-rent over the period. The figures obtained in this inquiry are given below :—

Index Numbers for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and for Average of Four Centres for each Year, 1891–1914.

(Base : Average aggregate annual expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891.. ..	417	844	760	771	698
1892.. ..	452	846	770	771	710
1893.. ..	571	857	780	771	745
1894.. ..	608	857	797	771	758
1895.. ..	660	862	803	795	780
1896.. ..	692	877	807	797	793
1897.. ..	741	893	825	805	816
1898.. ..	758	917	841	811	832
1899.. ..	772	935	848	814	842
1900.. ..	772	1,001	908	832	878
1901.. ..	831	1,058	910	836	909
1902.. ..	838	1,077	925	847	922
1903.. ..	837	1,106	918	852	928
1904.. ..	846	1,137	921	875	945
1905.. ..	876	1,184	958	879	974
1906.. ..	885	1,198	1,018	883	996
1907.. ..	885	1,206	976	884	988
1908.. ..	901	1,208	949	899	989
1909.. ..	914	1,186	937	899	984
1910.. ..	933	1,185	926	907	988
1911.. ..	948	1,167	917	911	986
1912.. ..	1,020	1,172	914	922	1,007
1913.. ..	1,032	1,254	924	933	1,036
1914.. ..	1,032	1,272	947	940	1,048

Graph showing Relative Average Weekly Rents, 1891–1914.



Explanation of Graph.—The base of each small square represents a year's interval, and the vertical height differences of 25 in the index numbers.

The great increase in house-rent in each of the four centres is unmistakably represented in the graph just given, and the figures correspond with current ideas. How far this increase in rent represents the improvement in the style of houses, better building, more conveniences, greater ornament, and how far it represents an increase of site-values due to increasing population it is impossible to determine.

Auckland and Wellington, it is interesting to notice, have shown the greatest and the most continuous increases in rent; and these are the towns which have increased most in population. Dunedin, which has increased least in population, shows the steadiest movement of rent, while Christchurch seems to have had a boom in 1906, and falling rents thereafter till 1912. House-rent in Wellington is for obvious reasons considerably above the level of the other centres.

The following figures show the increases in population and house-rent from 1891 to 1914:—

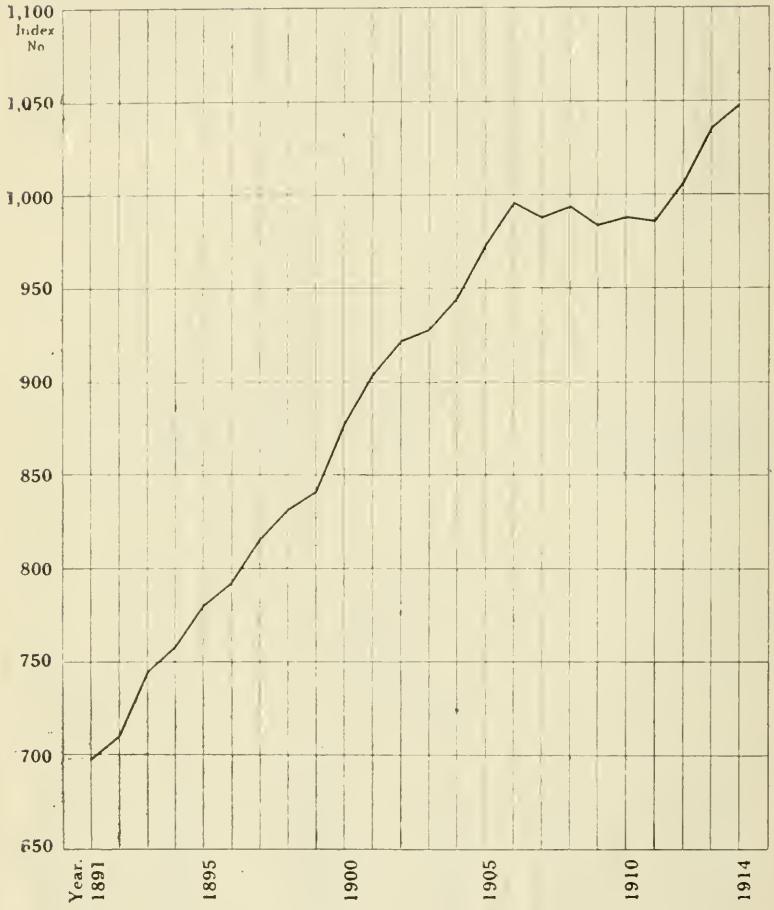
—	Population.		House-rent.	
	1891.	1914.	1891.	1914.
Auckland and suburbs ..	511[00]	1,143[00]	417	1,032
Wellington and suburbs ..	332	751	844	1,272
Christchurch and suburbs ..	478	864	760	947
Dunedin and suburbs.. ..	459	691	771	940

Index Numbers of House-rent in the Average of the Four Centres, 1891–1914.

(Base: Average annual aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Index Number.	Increase per Cent. over 1891.	Year.	Index Number.	Increase per Cent over 1891.
1891	698	—	1903	928	33·0
1892	710	1·7	1904	945	35·4
1893	745	6·7	1905	974	39·5
1894	758	8·6	1906	996	42·7
1895	780	11·7	1907	988	41·5
1896	793	13·6	1908	989	41·7
1897	816	16·9	1909	984	41·0
1898	832	19·2	1910	988	41·5
1899	842	20·6	1911	986	41·3
1900	878	25·8	1912	1,007	44·3
1911	909	30·2	1913	1,036	48·4
1902	922	32·1	1914	1,048	50·1

Graph showing the Average Weekly Rents in the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand from 1891–1914.



GROUP V.—FUEL AND LIGHT.

In most investigations into the cost of living the group fuel and light occupies an important place as one of the primary necessaries of life; but in New Zealand its importance seems to be less than in the older countries, perhaps because of the relatively greater income of the people. In the inquiry into household budgets undertaken by the Labour Department in 1910–11 it was ascertained that on the average the expenditure on fuel and light was little over 5 per cent. of the total income of the families rendering returns.

It has been impossible to settle on any group of commodities which were used in this period in the four towns in anything approaching comparable proportions. In Wellington electric light has been largely used for a number of years, in other towns its use is still restricted. Similarly, the comparative usages of gas, kerosene, and candles vary greatly even in the four centres, and the variation is greater between town and country.

It was impossible, then, to gain information for all the four towns over the whole period; but a small group of seven items has been selected, and prices have been collected for these items as far back as possible.

The differences of consumption during the period and from town to town have rendered difficult the adoption of weights. As before, the annual consumption of each item in 1914 has been taken as the mass-unit or weight, and this annual consumption is assumed not to have changed over the period. This assumption is in this instance arbitrary and unreal, and results, no doubt, in minimizing any tendency there may be for prices to rise, since a small consumption of high-priced electricity is weighted too heavily in early years. But the complete figures have been gathered from 1907 only, and therefore this objection loses a great deal of its force. The following table shows the commodities selected, together with the weights assigned to each:—

Fuel and Light Group.—Commodities, Units of Quantity, and Weights.

No. of Item.	Item.	Unit of Measurement.	Mass-unit (less 00,000).
1	Coal	¼ ton	44
2	Coke	Hundredweight ..	8
3	Firewood	¼ cord	4
4	Kerosene	4-gallon tin	8
5	Gas (for lighting)	1,000 cubic feet ..	11
6	Electricity (for lighting)	Unit	60
7	Candles	Pound	40

Index numbers can be computed for each year since 1893 in the case of Wellington, but only from 1903 for Christchurch, and from 1907 for Auckland and Dunedin. These index numbers are given herewith.

Index Numbers for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, with Average of Four Centres for each Year for which particulars are obtainable from 1893 to 1914.

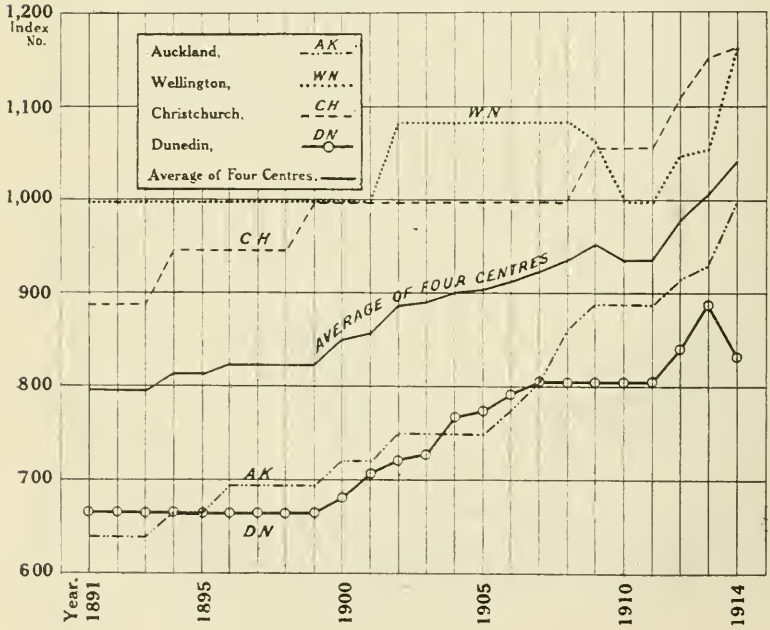
(Base: Average annual aggregate expenditure, 1909–13=1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.	Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1893	..	1,120	..	..	..	1904	..	1,108	1,078	..	..
1894	..	1,119	..	..	..	1905	..	1,104	1,063	..	..
1895	..	1,110	..	..	..	1906	..	1,103	1,059	..	..
1896	..	1,095	..	..	..	1907	840	1,110	1,063	887	**975**
1897	..	1,102	..	..	..	1908	879	1,110	1,053	908	**988**
1898	..	1,101	..	..	..	1909	899	1,097	1,079	896	**993**
1899	..	1,090	..	..	..	1910	898	1,054	1,075	896	**981**
1900	..	1,084	..	..	..	1911	899	1,053	1,074	893	**980**
1901	..	1,062	..	..	..	1912	919	1,091	1,117	920	**1,012**
1902	..	1,116	..	..	..	1913	928	1,101	1,150	960	**1,035**
1903	..	1,119	1,078	..	..	1914	971	1,160	1,174	905	**1,052**

Coal is much cheaper in Dunedin than in any of the other centres, and the charges for electricity for lighting purposes are lowest in Dunedin. As the expenditure on these two items averages more than half the total expenditure on fuel and light, it is not surprising that Dunedin ranks as the cheapest city for this group, as well as for food and rent.

Retail Prices of Coal in the Four Centres of New Zealand from 1891–1914.

(Base: Annual average aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)



Though it has not been possible to gain complete information of the whole group of commodities included in Fuel and Light, owing to the increased use of electricity and to the variations in the use of the various lighting agents, yet one of the most important commodities, coal, has been used universally in every centre over the whole period. Since coal is such a primary necessity and its price is so important to the consumer it has been thought worth while to give a separate index number to illustrate the variations in its retail price.

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Coal in the Four Centres of New Zealand from 1891–1914.

(Base: Average annual aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891	639	999	888	666	**798**
1892	639	999	888	666	**798**
1893	639	999	888	666	**798**
1894	666	999	944	666	**819**
1895	666	999	944	666	**819**
1896	694	999	944	666	**826**
1897	694	999	944	666	**826**
1898	694	999	944	666	**826**
1899	694	999	999	666	**826**
1900	722	999	999	680	**850**
1901	722	999	999	708	**857**
1902	750	1,083	999	722	**889**
1903	750	1,083	999	729	**890**
1904	750	1,083	999	770	**900**
1905	750	1,083	999	777	**902**
1906	777	1,083	999	791	**912**
1907	805	1,083	999	805	**923**
1908	861	1,083	999	805	**937**
1909	888	1,062	1,055	805	**952**
1910	888	999	1,055	805	**937**
1911	888	999	1,055	805	**937**
1912	916	1,048	1,111	840	**979**
1913	930	1,055	1,152	888	**1.006**
1914	999	1,166	1,166	833	**1.041**

Though coal is largely used all over the Dominion, the varieties of coal in different localities vary greatly. Following the method used throughout this investigation, the retail prices considered have been the predominant or most frequent prices of the quality or grade most usually sold. Where the predominant qualities vary greatly from one locality to another this method necessarily affects the comparability of the prices viewed merely as prices. But the measurement of the cost of living is not affected, since the object is to inquire what is actually paid for the goods actually used.

It will be very noticeable that Auckland and Dunedin prices of coal are very considerably lower than those of Christchurch and Wellington, the central towns varying from 30 per cent. to 50 per cent. above the

two towns first mentioned. The explanation seems to be the use of local coals—Taupiri in Auckland, and Kaitangata and Green Island in Dunedin. These local brown coals considerably cheapen the expense of fuel.

Christchurch and Wellington, on the other hand, use the more expensive coals from the west coast of the South Island, and from Newcastle and Greta in Australia. These sea-borne coals are necessarily more expensive, especially when, as on the West Coast, bar harbours hinder shipping. In Christchurch, too, a heavy tunnel rate must be paid on all sea-borne goods.

The general tendency of prices is markedly upward, and very steady except for a drop in prices in 1910. The average increase of price since 1891 is just over 30 per cent.

ALL GROUPS, 1891–1914.

In order to gain a "cost of living" index number as far as the commodities treated above represent the cost of living, the three food groups and rent have been compiled for the whole period, and in a separate table fuel and light has been added.

It may be as well here to repeat what was urged in the section describing the selection of commodities. It is not contended that the items treated in this inquiry cover the whole expenditure of every family —such a task would not be practicable in any inquiry. Neither does the investigation cover all classes of commodities; but it is representative of the main essential groups.

The most serious defect is the unavoidable omission of articles of clothing and boots. It is impossible to get predominant prices, because changes of consumption are so rapid and so variable that it is impossible for a retailer to say at any time that any quality is predominant, or even that there is a predominant price. The omission of this class was rendered inevitable by the multiplicity of varieties and qualities and by the rapid changes in consumption.

But it has been pointed out that a large proportion of the expenditure on clothing is more in the nature of luxury than necessity, and that the expenditure on necessary clothing does not vary greatly from year to year.

With the exception of clothing all the main classes of necessary expenditure are included, and the commodities treated cover more than 50 per cent. (and with fuel and light 60 per cent.) of the expenditure of an average family. Clothing amounts to less than 15 per cent., while the remaining 25 per cent. does not fall within any particular class, but is expended on luxuries and personal expenditure and miscellaneous expenses.

Moreover, the commodities treated, covering as they do the most necessary expenditure, grow more important as the income decreases, since the expenditure on food is always relatively greatest where the income is smallest.

It is with some confidence, therefore, that the following index numbers, covering 50 to 60 per cent. of normal household expenditure—and that the most necessary part—are presented as an indication of the changes in the cost of living in New Zealand from 1891 to 1914.

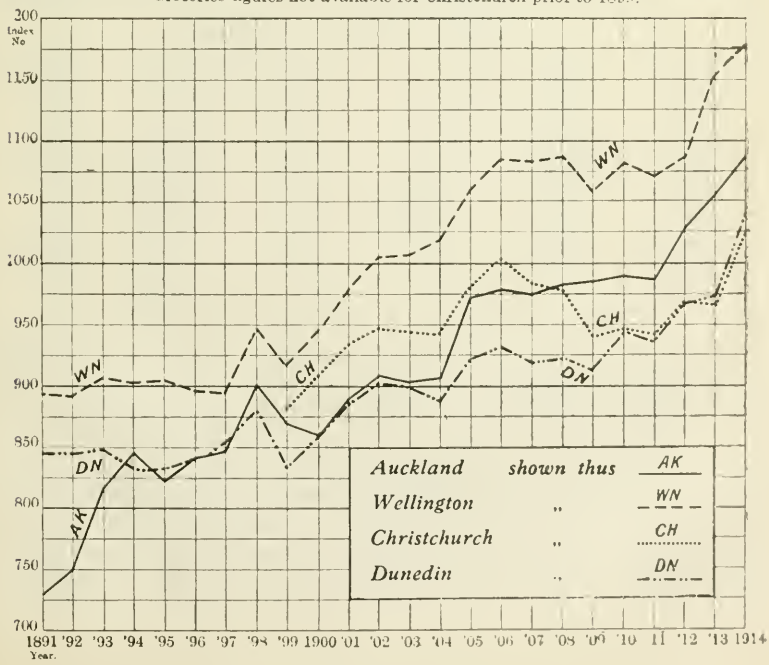
Food Groups and Rent, 1891–1914.

Index Numbers for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, and for Average of Four Centres for each Year, 1891–1914.

(Base : Average aggregate annual expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1891.. ..	730	893	*	844	*
1892.. ..	751	890	*	844	*
1893.. ..	816	909	*	847	*
1894.. ..	843	904	*	833	*
1895.. ..	822	907	*	833	*
1896.. ..	841	897	*	840	*
1897.. ..	849	894	*	854	*
1898.. ..	901	948	*	880	*
1899.. ..	870	918	878	835	**875**
1900.. ..	864	945	911	860	**895**
1901.. ..	889	979	933	881	**920**
1902.. ..	911	1,007	948	901	**942**
1903.. ..	904	1,008	944	900	**939**
1904.. ..	908	1,019	940	887	**939**
1905.. ..	973	1,060	979	923	**984**
1906.. ..	978	1,085	1,005	933	**1,000**
1907.. ..	975	1,084	984	919	**991**
1908.. ..	981	1,086	978	924	**992**
1909.. ..	983	1,069	941	913	**977**
1910.. ..	989	1,081	947	943	**990**
1911.. ..	984	1,071	942	939	**984**
1912.. ..	1,027	1,085	969	970	**1,013**
1913.. ..	1,055	1,152	968	973	**1,037**
1914.. ..	1,083	1,177	1,021	1,035	**1,079**

* Groceries figures not available for Christchurch prior to 1899.



The influence of rent on the cost of living has evidently been in the direction of increasing the expenditure greatly. A comparison with the graph drawn for rent in the four towns clearly establishes the connection, as, for instance, in Christchurch in 1906. House-rent forms a big and increasing proportion of the total expenditure in an average family.

It will be noticed that the relative positions of the towns have been altered by the inclusion of the rent-factor. Dunedin is still the least expensive town; but Wellington has leaped to the position of the most expensive. It has been found, too, in dealing with the twenty-five towns from 1914 onward that rent is the determining factor in deciding the relative expense of living in any town.

The general tendency of the cost of living is undoubtedly upward, and the increase has been very uniform and very real. The following table shows index numbers for the cost of living since 1891, using the first year, 1891, as base, so as to obtain the percentage increase for each succeeding year over the prices of 1891:—

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Food and House Accommodation, in the Average of the Four Centres of New Zealand from 1891 to 1914.

(Base: Annual average aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1891 = 1,000.)

Year.	Index Number.	Percentage Increase over 1891.	Year.	Index Number.	Percentage Increase over 1891.
1891	1,000	—	1903	1,126	12·6
1892	1,001	0·1	1904	1,126	12·6
1893	1,032	3·2	1905	1,180	18·0
1894	1,034	3·4	1906	1,199	19·9
1895	1,029	2·9	1907	1,188	18·8
1896	1,034	3·4	1908	1,189	18·9
1897	1,043	4·3	1909	1,171	17·1
1898	1,090	9·0	1910	1,187	18·7
1899	1,049	4·9	1911	1,180	18·0
1900	1,073	7·3	1912	1,215	21·5
1901	1,103	10·3	1913	1,243	24·3
1902	1,129	12·9	1914	1,294	29·4

NOTE.—In the foregoing table the expenditure on groceries, 1891–98, is the average of Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin, Christchurch prices not being available.

It will be noticed in the table above that Christchurch prices for groceries are missing for the period 1891–98, and therefore that the average used is the average of the other three centres. But this applies only to groceries: the four centres are averaged for the other groups, and the completeness given to the table justifies the expedient used, especially as calculations for succeeding years show that the difference between the

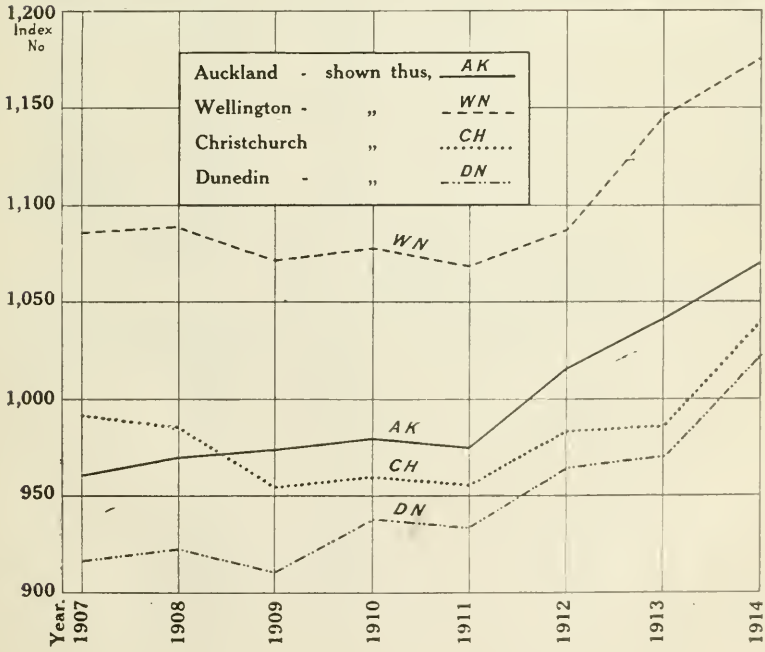
results obtained and the complete average of the four centres is so small as to be negligible, amounting usually to one unit in the index number.

The inclusion of the fifth group—fuel and light—which is possible from 1907, renders the index number of the cost of living more complete, and the following table is given as showing the course of predominant retail prices of all groups combined since 1907.

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of all Groups (Groceries, Dairy-produce, Meat, House-rent, and Fuel and Light) in the Four Chief Centres of New Zealand, 1907–1914.

(Base: Annual average aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

—	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.	Average of Four Centres.
1907	961	1,086	992	917	989
1908	970	1,089	986	923	992
1909	974	1,072	955	911	978
1910	980	1,078	960	938	989
1911	975	1,069	956	934	983
1912	1,016	1,086	984	965	1,013
1913	1,042	1,147	986	971	1,036
1914	1,071	1,176	1,040	1,022	1,077



The inclusion of fuel and light, which amounts only to 10 per cent. of the aggregate expenditure, and which moves mainly in the same direction as the other groups, does not greatly affect the index number.

The graph illustrates the relative price-levels in each centre, and brings out clearly the tendency for prices to rise higher in recent years, in 1914 especially.

Relative Expenditure on each Group.

It has been explained in the section on method that throughout this inquiry a constant "regimen" was assumed. That is, it was necessary to assume that the relative annual consumptions of the various commodities had not changed between 1891 and 1914, and the whole system of weighting was based on this assumption. The fact that some prices rose more than others is, however, reflected in the varying proportions of aggregate expenditure on the different groups as displayed by the following table. Rent having risen in price most and groceries least accounts for a change in relative aggregate expenditures. In order to show the relative importance given to each group the following table summarizes the relative proportions of the total expenditure covered by each group.

Aggregate Expenditure on each Group expressed as a Percentage of the Total Aggregate Expenditure on all Groups in the Average of the Four Centres from 1891 to 1914.

Group.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.
Groceries	32·98*	28·15	25·99	26·34
Dairy-produce ..	13·99*	13·58	14·48	14·00
Meat	22·01*	20·70	21·25	22·60
House-rent	31·02*	37·57	38·28	37·06
Total	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

* Average of three centres, Auckland, Wellington, and Dunedin.

Including fuel and light the proportions are.—

Group.	1911.	1914.
Groceries	23·29	23·66
Dairy-produce ..	12·97	12·58
Meat	19·07	20·27
House-rent	34·47	33·48
Fuel and light ..	10·20	10·01
Total	100·00	100·00

The relative aggregate expenditure between the groups is just as important a question of weighting as the adjustment of commodities within each group. Throughout this inquiry the utmost care has been taken to give each commodity and each group its proper economic weight. It is interesting, therefore, to compare the results given above with the proportions of expenditure given by the Labour Department's investigation into household budgets.

This present inquiry covers only about 60 per cent. of the total expenditure as ascertained by the budgets; but within this percentage the relative proportions are in striking agreement. The results are summarized below :—

	Household Budget Inquiry of Labour Department, 1910. Per Cent.	Retail Prices, of Present Investigation. Per Cent.
Food	57·20	56·51
Rent	34·04	33·48
Fuel and light	8·76	10·01

These figures confirm the accuracy of the weights used in this present inquiry.

Summary of Index Numbers.

It is convenient at this stage to summarize the results so far obtained by the following table giving the index numbers for the average of the four centres, for each group and all groups combined, as far as it is possible to calculate them. The average of the four centres is the best approximation which can be made to a Dominion index number of the cost of living, and though it necessarily leaves out of account the distinction between town and country, this, it has been proved by experiment, makes little difference in the index numbers except in the case of rent. In any case, over a third of the population of the Dominion live in these four centres.

No attempt has been made at weighting for population, but the four centres are sufficiently alike to make weighting unnecessary. It has been proved by experiment that systems of weighting make only an infinitesimal difference in the index numbers.

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of All Groups of Commodities in the Average of the Four Chief Centres, 1891 to 1914.

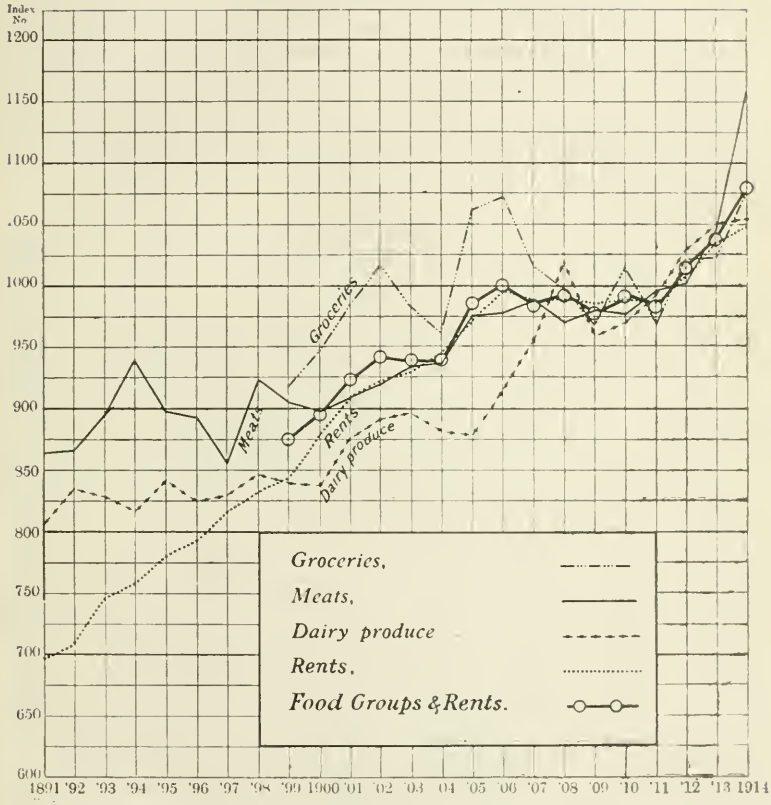
(Base: Annual average aggregate expenditure. four chief centres, 1891–1914 = 1,000.)

Year.	Group I: Groceries.	Group II: Dairy-products.	Group III: Meat.	Groups I–III: Food Groups.	Group IV: House-rent.	Groups I–IV: Food and Rent.	Group V: Fuel and Light.	Groups I–V: All Groups.
1891 ..	..	806	864	..	698	..	..	..
1892 ..	..	835	866	..	710	..	..	..
1893 ..	..	828	896	..	745	..	..	..
1894 ..	..	817	939	..	758	..	..	..
1895 ..	..	842	898	..	780	..	..	..
1896 ..	..	825	892	..	793	..	..	..
1897 ..	..	830	855	..	816	..	..	..
1898 ..	..	847	923	..	832	..	..	..
1899 ..	919	840	905	**896**	842	**875**	..	..
1900 ..	948	838	899	**906**	878	**895**	..	..
1901 ..	971	876	909	**928**	909	**920**	..	..
1902 ..	1,016	892	919	**954**	922	**942**	..	..
1903 ..	983	897	933	**946**	928	**939**	..	..
1904 ..	962	882	935	**935**	945	**939**	..	..
1905 ..	1,062	878	975	**990**	974	**984**	..	..
1906 ..	1,072	914	977	**1,003**	996	**1,000**	..	..
1907 ..	1,016	955	989	**993**	988	**991**	975	**989**
1908 ..	999	1,020	971	**994**	989	**992**	988	**992**
1909 ..	973	958	980	**972**	984	**977**	993	**978**
1910 ..	1,014	970	977	**991**	988	**990**	981	**989**
1911 ..	968	993	995	**983**	986	**984**	980	**983**
1912 ..	1,022	1,029	1,001	**1,017**	1,007	**1,013**	1,012	**1,013**
1913 ..	1,023	1,050	1,047	**1,037**	1,036	**1,037**	1,035	**1,036**
1914 ..	1,076	1,054	1,158	**1,098**	1,048	**1,079**	1,052	**1,077**

NOTE.—This table is comparable vertically but not horizontally, since the different groups have different bases.

This table and the graph following summarize the information contained in the general tables previously given.

Graphs showing Relative Prices (Average of Four Centres) for each Group and Combined Groups, 1891–1914.



Explanation of Graphs.—The base of each small square represents a year's interval, and the vertical height differences of 25 in the index numbers.

CHAPTER III.—THE PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY.

A. THE SHRINKING SOVEREIGN.

The phrase "purchasing-power of money" has a definite technical meaning in economics as the inverse of the general level of prices; but, expressing as it does, in scientific terms, a fact of everyday life, the phrase is used more loosely in a popular sense, simply to direct attention to the fact that the value of money in relation to goods is a variable quantity. It is a commonplace that a sovereign to-day is not worth as much as it was worth fifteen or twenty years ago; but the sovereign contains just as much and just as fine gold. What has changed is the amount of commodities which the sovereign will purchase. This popular expression, that a sovereign is worth less to-day than formerly, though not strictly scientific and accurate, yet is commonly used and contains some truth. The following table is intended to represent the change indicated by this popular expression.

The value of any article is fixed jointly by demand and supply, and is merely the ratio of its power in exchange compared with the power of other commodities. For instance, a sack of wheat may be worth two and a half sacks of oats at a particular time, and a year later may be worth more or less. But no one, except in primitive places, quotes wheat in terms of oats, or *vice versa*; it has been more convenient to fix on a definite article which shall be the standard of value, and, together with this use, shall also perform the services of a medium of exchange. By process of evolution gold is now the definite standard of value over the civilized world, and all goods are bought and sold in terms of gold.

But gold has an intrinsic value apart from its use as currency, and in former days much inconvenience was caused by changes in the ratio between the value of gold as coin and as bullion. In England the difficulty was met in 1816 by the Coinage Act, which definitely settled this ratio once for all by enacting that 20 lb. of standard gold should be coined into 934½ sovereigns; or, in other words, that an ounce of standard bullion should be the equivalent of £3 17s. 10½d. in coins. In this way the relation of coined to uncoined gold is fixed by Act of Parliament. But it is inevitable that the value of gold in relation to other commodities must change from time to time, either from variations on the side of gold or from variations in commodities.

In the previous paragraph attention has been focussed on gold; but similar reasoning applies to all money, which, moreover, is in the last resort based on gold. The relation of coins and of other forms of money to specie being fixed in this way, the only means of expressing a change in the value of commodities is through prices, which are merely the money-values of the different articles.

So that, though the price of gold is fixed, its value changes in relation to other commodities, and this change can be expressed only by the prices of those commodities increasing or decreasing. As prices rise the sovereign commands less goods, and *vice versa*.

The popular saying carries some weight, and the table given below is intended to give some definite data on which to base such a statement, though the foregoing caution must not be forgotten. When prices rise the popular idea is that the value of the sovereign has fallen; when prices fall it has risen. In the following table these figures are for convenience shown in terms of shillings and pence, so that a figure may be obtained which will give expression to the statement which is being illustrated.

A Table to show the relative Worth in Terms of General Commodities (but stated for Convenience in Terms of Money) represented by a Sovereign during the Years 1891–1914, taking the average "Worth" in the Years 1909–13 as Base = 20s.

Year.	I. Groceries.		II. Dairy-produce.		III. Meats.		I–III. Food Groups.		IV. Rents.		I–IV. All Groups.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
1891	..		24	9¾	23	1¾	..		28	7¾	..	
1892	..		23	11½	23	1¼	..		28	2	..	
1893	..		24	1¾	22	3¾	..		26	10¼	..	
1894	..		24	5¾	21	3½	..		26	4½	..	
1895	..		23	9	22	3¼	..		25	7¾	..	
1896	..		24	3	22	5	..		25	2¾	..	
1897	..		24	1¼	23	4¾	..		24	6	..	
1898	..		23	7¼	21	8	..		24	0½	..	
1899	21	9¼	23	9¾	22	1¼	22	3¾	23	9	22	10¼
1900	21	1¼	23	10½	22	3	22	1	22	9¼	22	4¼
1901	20	3¾	22	10	22	0	21	5	22	0	21	7¾
1902	19	8¼	22	5	21	9¼	20	11½	21	8¼	21	2¾
1903	20	4¼	22	3½	21	5¼	21	1¾	21	6½	21	3½
1904	20	9½	22	8	21	4¾	21	4¾	21	2	21	3½
1905	18	10	22	9¼	20	6¼	20	2½	20	6½	20	4
1906	18	8	21	10½	20	5¾	19	11¼	20	1	20	0
1907	20	0½	20	11¼	20	2¾	20	3¾	20	3	20	3½
1908	20	0¼	19	7¼	20	7¼	20	1½	20	2¾	20	2
1909	20	6¾	20	10½	20	5	20	7	20	4	20	5¾
1910	19	8¾	20	7½	20	5¾	20	2¼	20	3	20	2½
1911	20	8	20	1¾	20	1¼	20	4½	20	3½	20	4
1912	19	6¾	19	5¼	19	11¾	19	8	19	10¼	19	9
1913	19	6½	19	0½	19	1¼	19	3½	19	3¾	19	3¼
1914	18	7	18	11¾	17	3¼	18	2½	19	1	18	6½

NOTE.—These figures are comparable vertically, but not horizontally.

It will be seen from the foregoing table that great changes have taken place in the worth of a sovereign since 1891. In that year a sovereign would buy a quantity of dairy-produce which at the average prices of the years 1909–13 would have cost 24s. 9¾d. Taking the same products in 1914, a sovereign would buy only as much as 18s. 11¾d. would have bought if prices had remained at the average of the base years 1909–13.

The figures of the table therefore represent goods (but for convenience are turned into money at the prices of 1909–13). It will be noticed that they are exactly reversed from the tables given previously—a small index number (*i.e.*, low prices) obviously represents a high purchasing-power of money. As prices rise and the index numbers become bigger the purchasing-power falls.

B. THE COST OF LIVING.

It is advisable to illustrate the changing level of prices in the opposite way from the last section by focussing attention on the amount of money required to purchase a given quantity of goods, instead of on the quantity of goods which can be purchased with a stated amount of money, in this case a sovereign.

The table below, therefore, is opposite in movement to the one last given and similar to the early tables of index numbers. Indeed, the table is computed directly from the table of index numbers: instead of equating the average annual aggregate expenditure of the four centres during 1909–13 to the figure 1,000 it is equated to 20s., and the figures thus computed show the amounts that would have to be paid in each year to purchase what would have cost 20s. in the base years 1909–13 (in the average of the four centres). In the same way the average weekly rent for the base period 1909 to 1913 is taken as equal to 20s.

Table showing the Amount necessary on the Average to purchase the same Quantity of Foodstuffs and House Accommodation in the Average of the Four Centres for each Year 1891–1914.

(Base of table: Average annual aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 20s.)

Year.	Group I. Groceries.	Group II. Dairy-produce.	Group III. Meat.	Groups I–III. Food Groups.	Group IV. House-rent.	Groups I–IV. Food and Rent.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1891	..	16 1½	17 3¼	..	13 11½	..
1892	..	16 8½	17 3¾	..	14 2½	..
1893	..	16 6¾	17 11	..	14 10¾	..
1894	..	16 4	18 9¼	..	15 2	..
1895	..	16 10	17 11½	..	15 7¼	..
1896	..	16 6	17 10	..	15 10¼	..
1897	..	16 7¼	17 1¼	..	16 3¾	..
1898	..	16 11¼	18 5½	..	16 7¾	..
1899	18 4½	16 9½	18 1¼	17 11	16 10	17 6
1900	18 11½	16 9	17 11¾	18 1½	17 6¾	17 10¾
1901	19 8½	17 6¼	18 2¼	18 8¼	18 2¼	18 5¾
1902	20 3¾	17 10	18 4½	19 1	18 5¼	18 10
1903	19 8	17 11¼	18 8	18 11	18 6¾	18 9¼
1904	19 3	17 7¾	18 8½	18 8½	18 10¾	18 9¼
1905	21 3	17 6¾	19 6	19 9½	19 5¾	19 8¼
1906	21 5¼	18 3¼	19 6½	20 0¾	19 11	20 0
1907	19 11½	19 1¼	19 9¼	19 8½	19 9	19 8¾
1908	19 11¾	18 4¾	19 5	19 10½	19 9¼	19 10
1909	19 5½	19 2	19 7¼	19 5¼	19 8¼	19 6½
1910	20 3¼	18 10¾	19 6½	19 9¾	19 9	19 9½
1911	19 4¼	19 10¼	19 10¾	19 8	19 8¾	19 8¼
1912	20 5¼	20 7	20 0¼	20 4	20 1¾	20 3
1913	20 5¼	21 0	20 11¼	20 9	20 8¾	20 9
1914	21 6¼	21 1	23 2	21 11½	20 11½	21 7

NOTE.—These figures are comparable vertically, but not horizontally.

WEEKLY BUDGETS, 1891–1914.

The general level of prices, or the purchasing-power of money, is an abstraction which in itself is mainly of academic interest. What touches every one is the cost of living, in which the purchasing-power of money is but one factor, though in present conditions the most important. The usual method adopted to measure the cost of living for any group of persons is to obtain a typical budget of expenditure and then to measure the effects of changes in the price-level upon that budget. A true measure of changes in the cost of living would take account not only of changes in price, but also of changes in the budget—roughly, the standard of living. But for the present, as explained in the previous article, it is best for our purpose, which is merely the illustration of the rise in prices, to adopt a certain fixed budget and apply to the articles therein contained the variations in prices as disclosed by the investigation just made.

In Australia, and in the older countries, investigations into the question of budget expenditure have been carried out with a great deal of detail and success; but New Zealand has so far seen no comprehensive investigation into this question. The only guide available has been an inquiry conducted by the Labour Department in 1910–11, which, however, was not sufficiently extensive to enable a strictly typical New Zealand budget to be made up.

Now that the New Zealand Statistical Office in co-operation with the Department of Labour has taken up the systematic record and investigation of price-movements as a branch of its regular work, it is hoped that an expenditure inquiry may shortly be undertaken from which a typical actual budget for New Zealand may be evolved. Inquiries into household expenditure form part of the regular work of the Statistical Offices in the United Kingdom, United States, Germany, and Australia. Apart from their own special interest and value they are particularly useful in work such as is being undertaken in connection with prices; but satisfactory results can be obtained only with the active sympathy and assistance of householders.

In the construction of a budget, therefore, the work has been somewhat hampered by lack of a typical statistical example ready to hand. For our present purpose there was adopted an artificial, arbitrary budget, which bears no direct relation to any particular weekly expenditure. This budget is not intended to represent the weekly expenditure of any particular family or group of people at any particular time.

The commodities selected are representative as far as can be ascertained and the relative amounts of expenditure have been carefully considered. It was deemed advisable in the first place to limit the total expenditure, which covers only groceries, dairy-produce, meat, and rent, to a sum rather less than £2 per week, since allowance must be made for clothing, boots, recreation, luxuries, &c. Then the proportions to be devoted to each group were settled by consideration of many factors. The rent of a four-roomed house offered little difficulty; but it was harder to decide just how much relatively was expended on groceries, on dairy-produce, and on meat. The results of the Labour Department's investigation, and the relative annual consumptions of the articles selected (as used for the weights in the general index number) were used to settle the quantities

and to bring them as near actual life as possible. The selection of the commodities themselves was largely artificial; but often a typical commodity represents a group—as, for instance, rice stands for the similar commodities of sago and tapioca. In this, as in other ways, the budget, it must be emphasized once more, is not an attempt to depict any actual family consumption, but an illustration of the action of prices on those articles which bulk largely in the household expenditure of the average man. Read in this way the table is a useful and striking method of representing price-variations; but it must not be construed as an attempt to fix a typical expenditure.

Weekly Budgets.

Table showing the Comparative Costs of an Assumed Weekly Household Consumption of Certain Foodstuffs, and the Rent of a Four-roomed House.

(Based on the average of the four chief centres.)

Commodity.	Quantity.	Average Cost, 1891.	Average Cost, 1896.	Average Cost, 1901.	Average Cost, 1906.	Average Cost, 1911.	Average Cost, 1914.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Groceries—							
Bread..	7 2 lb. loaves	0 1 10½	0 1 8¼	0 1 9½	0 1 9¾	0 1 11	0 2 3¾
Flour	3 lb.	0 0 5	0 0 4¼	0 0 3½	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 5
Oatmeal	1 lb.	0 0 1½	0 0 1½	0 0 1½	0 0 1¾	0 0 2	0 0 2
Rice	1 lb.	0 0 3	0 0 2½	0 0 2½	0 0 2¼	0 0 2½	0 0 2½
Tea	½ lb.	0 1 0½	0 0 11¾	0 0 10½	0 0 9¾	0 0 9	0 0 9½
Cocoa..	⅛ lb.	0 0 5	0 0 5¼	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 5	0 0 5½
Sugar..	3 lb.	0 0 8½	0 0 7¼	0 0 7½	0 0 7¼	0 0 6	0 0 6½
Jam	2 lb.	0 0 10	0 0 9¾	0 0 10	0 0 10	0 0 9½	0 0 11
Raisins	½ lb.	0 0 4½	0 0 3	0 0 3½	0 0 3	0 0 3	0 0 3
Potatoes	14 lb.	0 0 7	0 0 8¼	0 0 9	0 1 7¼	0 0 10½	0 0 11
Totals	..	0 6 7½	0 6 1¾	0 6 2½	0 7 0	0 6 2½	0 6 11¾
Increase per cent. over 1891	..	..	− 7·23	− 6·29	5·66	− 6·29	5·35
Dairy-produce—							
Milk	7 pts.	0 0 11½	0 0 11½	0 0 11½	0 1 0	0 1 1	0 1 2
Butter	3 lb.	0 2 8	0 2 10	0 3 2½	0 3 3¼	0 3 7¼	0 3 6½
Cheese	¼ lb.	0 0 2	0 0 1¾	0 0 2	0 0 2	0 0 2	0 0 2
Bacon	1 lb.	0 0 9	0 0 8¼	0 0 8	0 0 9	0 0 10	0 0 11½
Totals	..	0 4 6½	0 4 7½	0 5 0	0 5 2¼	0 5 8½	0 5 10
Increase per cent. over 1891	..	..	1·83	10·09	14·22	25·69	28·44
Meat—							
Beef—							
Sirloin	3 lb.	0 1 4	0 1 4½	0 1 5½	0 1 6¾	0 1 7	0 1 9
Stewing-steak ..	2 lb.	0 0 9	0 0 9¾	0 0 9	0 0 9½	0 0 10	0 1 0
Corned roll	1 lb.	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4	0 0 4¼	0 0 4½	0 0 5½
Sausages	2 lb.	0 0 7½	0 0 7¼	0 0 7½	0 0 7½	0 0 8	0 0 10
Mutton—							
Leg..	3 lb.	0 1 0½	0 1 0½	0 1 2	0 1 3¼	0 1 4½	0 1 6
Shoulder	2 lb.	0 0 6½	0 0 7¼	0 0 7½	0 0 8½	0 0 8½	0 0 9½
Chops	2 lb.	0 0 9½	0 0 10¼	0 0 10½	0 0 11	0 1 0	0 1 1½
Totals	..	0 5 5	0 5 7½	0 5 10	0 6 3	0 6 6½	0 7 5½
Increase per cent. over 1891	..	..	3·85	7·69	15·38	20·77	37·69
Rent	4 rooms	0 7 11	0 8 9	0 10 10	0 12 5	0 12 4	0 13 0
Increase per cent. over 1891	..	..	10·53	36·84	56·84	55·79	64·21
Totals of budget ..	..	1 3 11	1 5 1¾	1 7 10½	1 10 10¼	1 10 3½	1 12 5¼
Increase per cent. over 1891	..	..	5·14	16·55	29·01	26·67	35·63

The minus sign (−) signifies a decrease.

A great rise in prices is at once evident from a scrutiny of the budget figures. The biggest increase is in rent, which over the period increased somewhere about 64 per cent. The increase of the budget total (about 36 per cent. in twenty-five years) is largely made up of the increase in rent, though each group has increased, groceries by 5 per cent., dairy-produce by 28 per cent., and meat by 38 per cent. Most of the increase in the groceries group is due to the foods of New Zealand origin —bread, flour, oatmeal, potatoes, and onions—as demonstrated previously in this article, and with these items eliminated a fall would probably be evident, mainly due to tariff reductions—*e.g.*, in tea and sugar.

The effect of these tariff reductions is very evident from the budget. From 1891–95 prices fell and the tariff was also reduced in 1895, so that it is not surprising to find that prices of groceries fell over 7 per cent. by 1896. In 1901 they had risen again slightly, and by 1906 they were nearly 6 per cent. ahead of the prices in 1891, though this is due mainly to an abnormally high price for potatoes. In 1907 a further revision of the tariff took effect, and this, together with a considerable fall in potatoes, again lowered prices. The last year, 1914, again shows a rise, turning a decrease into an increase. Prices were higher in bread, flour, tea, cocoa, sugar, jam, and potatoes.

In the second group, prices have advanced steadily over the whole period, slightly till 1896 and greatly thereafter. Increases are evident in every item.

Meat, too, shows much the same course, except that the increase is sharply accentuated in 1914. The price of meat advanced very greatly indeed in the years 1912–13–14, and the increase in those three years was almost as great as the increase for the twenty years previous.

The rent of a four-roomed house shows the greatest increase of all. A fair rise from 1891–96 was succeeded by two very great increases till the figure for 1906 was nearly 57 per cent. greater than that for 1891. In 1906, however, rents were at a very high level, especially in Christchurch, and the next period shows a slight decline, only to be succeeded by another increase.

The decreased price of groceries and the slight set-back in rent in 1911 caused a temporary reduction in the cost of living in that year; but this is the only reduction which is evident. The constant tendency to higher prices is very well brought out by the total expenditure in this household budget.

The report of the Cost of Living Commission of 1912 placed the increase in the cost of living over this period at 16 per cent., allowing for changes in the standard of comfort, in such items as rent. This result was based on index numbers prepared by various witnesses and on general evidence tendered.

It has been interesting to find, after the weekly budget was worked out, that among this evidence is a budget of household expenditure, as estimated in Auckland by Professor Segar, which, though based on different commodities and weighted differently, is in striking agreement with the budget just given, showing the increase from 1894–96 to 1908–10 as 24·6 per cent., while the budget just considered shows 26·67 per cent. increase from 1891 to 1911. Especially noticeable are the figures for rent given by

Professor Segar as 7s. 11½d. and 12s. and in the returns used in this investigation as 7s. 11d. and 12s. 4d.*

In this present investigation no account could be taken of changes in the standard of comfort or living. The method used assumes a fixed consumption of the articles mentioned. The prices used, however, are the actual predominant retail prices of these commodities.

Since the Commission's report in 1912, prices of commodities in general have increased rapidly, so that the estimate of 16 per cent. increase will no longer hold good. The figure indicated by the household budget, 36 per cent. increase in 1914 over 1891, represents the actual increase in the retail prices of the commodities most commonly used. Some part of this increase represents changes in the quality demanded — especially is this the case in house-rent; but a great deal of it represents a real increase in the cost of living.

The war, too, as will be shown later, has resulted in increasing the cost of living still further in almost every respect.

CHAPTER IV.—TWENTY-FIVE TOWNS.

COST OF LIVING IN TWENTY-FIVE CENTRES IN 1914-15.

From the beginning of the year 1914 particulars of retail prices have been obtained for each month in twenty-five different towns of New Zealand. The twenty-five towns were selected as representative of New Zealand as a whole; they cover both Islands from Whangarei to Invercargill, and represent coastal and inland districts and large and small centres. The data on which the index numbers is based is collected each month by the local Inspectors of Factories from representative retailers, and the index numbers are computed in the office of the Government Statistician. The average prices for each town are published each month, and index numbers each quarter, in the *Labour Journal.*

The index numbers given below as quarterly are based on the average prices of the three months in the quarter, so that they differ materially from the prices current at the end of the quarters.

In order to make the index numbers for these towns comparable in every respect, and also comparable with the index numbers previously given for the four big towns since 1891, the same base has been retained—viz., the average annual aggregate expenditure in the four chief centres in the five years 1909–13.

The following tables are comparable both horizontally and vertically, since each column has the same base. Horizontally they show variations in time, vertically variations according to locality.

In comparing different quarters, regard must be had to the influence of seasonal fluctuations in price and consumption of some commodities, including such important articles as milk, butter, potatoes, eggs.

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* Report of the Commission on the Cost of Living, 1912, H.–18, pp. x–xx.

Group I.—Groceries.—Twenty-five Representative Towns.

Index Numbers for each Quarter of 1914 and for the First Two Quarters of 1915 for Twenty-five Representative Towns in New Zealand.

(Base: Average aggregate annual expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Town.	First Quarter, 1914.	Second Quarter, 1914.	Third Quarter, 1914.	Fourth Quarter, 1914.	First Quarter, 1915.	Second Quarter, 1915.
Auckland ..	1,006	1,019	1,028	1,111	1,153	1,160
Wellington ..	1,041	1,058	1,114	1,275	1,219	1,226
Christchurch ..	1,015	1,024	1,090	1,093	1,201	1,190
Dunedin ..	1,055	1,039	1,056	1,189	1,245	1,207
Whangarei ..	1,025	1,029	1,089	1,086	1,214	1,212
Hamilton ..	1,092	1,098	1,096	1,190	1,218	1,238
Rotorua ..	1,128	1,128	1,165	1,299	1,299	1,260
Waihi ..	1,096	1,074	1,068	1,292	1,199	1,229
Gisborne ..	1,088	1,080	1,135	1,257	1,274	1,269
Napier ..	1,125	1,061	1,116	1,233	1,358	1,338
Dannevirke ..	1,081	1,081	1,097	1,224	1,264	1,256
New Plymouth	1,139	1,084	1,071	1,265	1,180	1,194
Wanganui ..	1,002	1,005	1,025	1,184	1,124	1,148
Taihape ..	1,162	1,147	1,180	1,441	1,386	1,398
Palmerston North	1,079	1,079	1,079	1,248	1,217	1,190
Masterton ..	1,059	1,051	1,075	1,229	1,336	1,325
Blenheim ..	1,057	1,070	1,158	1,361	1,304	1,261
Nelson ..	1,116	1,092	1,113	1,227	1,210	1,239
Greymouth ..	1,051	1,049	1,058	1,114	1,248	1,223
Ashburton ..	944	944	1,016	1,099	1,174	1,186
Timaru ..	996	988	1,039	1,197	1,202	1,173
Oamaru ..	1,019	1,023	1,109	1,446	1,281	1,199
Alexandra ..	1,141	1,141	1,156	1,325	1,392	1,306
Gore	1,007	1,014	1,014	1,243	1,302	1,233
Invercargill ..	1,108	1,034	1,053	1,148	1,236	1,192

A general tendency to increase is observable over the six quarters; but certain facts point to the belief that the increase in the first quarter of 1915 is abnormal and due to the circumstances of war-time. Certain products, such as potatoes and onions, tend to decrease in price, and in some towns this decrease has led to a drop in the index number, though on the whole groceries have tended to rise. The drop in these towns is sometimes exaggerated by the fact that the high price of potatoes in the last quarter of 1914 included new potatoes, which are not strictly comparable with the price of old potatoes, so that the drop is somewhat artificial. A better comparison is obtained from the first quarter of each year, and in this way a good idea may be gained of the rise in prices in the twelve months.

The proper comparison of June quarter, 1914, with June quarter, 1915, also shows a decided rise in prices in all the towns without exception.

The comparison with the first quarter of 1915 shows in some towns a decrease, in others an increase; and an inspection of the data shows that there are two conflicting causes at work. In practically every town the price of potatoes decreased during June quarter, since the price was naturally high in the first quarter of the year. It is noticeable, too, that in towns where the higher price of potatoes was ruling in the last quarter of 1914 there is no drop between the first and second quarters of 1915. This fall in potatoes, which operated generally over all the towns, was responsible especially for the big drop in the index numbers for a group of southern towns—Invercargill, Gore, Alexandra, Oamaru, Timaru, Dunedin. In all these towns the price of potatoes dropped greatly, and similar falls took place in Palmerston North, Masterton, Blenheim, and Greymouth. In Rotorua there was also a decline in the price of sugar.

These changes demonstrate the seasonal nature of certain fluctuations particularly in the price of foodstuffs. It is natural to expect the price of potatoes to rise in the first and last quarters of each year, and to decrease in the second and third quarters, and in normal times there would probably be a complete cycle of such changes observable each year. The commodities affected are so important, and consequently are weighted so heavily, that even a slight change in their prices is immediately reflected in the index number.

As was pointed out before, an element of artificiality is introduced by the fact that the weights are calculated on an annual average consumption; but the consumption varies with price. When prices are high it is, in normal circumstances, a *prima facie* indication that supplies are short and therefore that consumption is lessened, and when prices fall it is usually through an increase in supply. So that the high price of potatoes in December and March quarters tends to have an undue influence on the index numbers for those periods.

The proper comparison, it must be emphasized again, is between corresponding quarters; but the changes in different prices are always worthy of notice.

The price of sugar, however, is a genuine advance, not merely a seasonal fluctuation; and similarly there has been a general tendency towards a rise in the price of bread. Practically all the increases shown are due to this cause—as, for instance, in Waihi, Hamilton, New Plymouth, Wanganui, Taihape, Nelson. In Gisborne a rise in bread was counteracted by a fall in potatoes, and in every town these two movements were conflicting.

It will be noticed that the three commodities mentioned belong to the subgroup of New Zealand products which were analysed previously and found to be responsible for most of the fluctuations in this group. Those articles which were called "general groceries" are much more stable, and have changed in price very little compared with bread and potatoes especially, and flour, oatmeal, onions, and sugar in a less degree. But whatever change there has been in general groceries has been upward.

The most expensive town in June quarter was Taihape, followed by Napier, Masterton, and Alexandra, while the least expensive towns were Wanganui and Auckland.

GROUP II.—DAIRY-PRODUCE.—TWENTY-FIVE REPRESENTATIVE TOWNS.

Index Numbers for each Quarter of 1914 and for the First Two Quarters of 1915 for Twenty-five Representative Towns in New Zealand.

(Base : Average aggregate annual expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Town.	First Quarter, 1914.	Second Quarter, 1914.	Third Quarter, 1914.	Fourth Quarter, 1914.	First Quarter, 1915.	Second Quarter, 1915.
Auckland ..	1,011	1,049	1,015	1,028	1,101	1,177
Wellington ..	1,109	1,186	1,094	1,079	1,119	1,295
Christchurch ..	1,030	1,082	1,012	915	1,077	1,166
Dunedin ..	1,053	1,119	1,045	1,040	1,091	1,203
Whangarei ..	984	1,057	1,002	1,050	1,094	1,187
Hamilton ..	1,022	1,046	1,026	1,006	1,090	1,198
Rotorua ..	1,107	1,141	1,061	1,094	1,207	1,346
Waihi ..	1,013	1,050	992	1,030	1,128	1,261
Gisborne ..	1,102	1,104	1,051	1,066	1,131	1,287
Napier ..	1,095	1,127	1,092	1,111	1,151	1,217
Dannevirke ..	1,018	1,018	1,025	1,047	1,084	1,192
New Plymouth ..	1,042	1,096	974	910	1,024	1,151
Wanganui ..	1,042	1,043	991	1,008	1,144	1,279
Taihape ..	1,105	1,117	1,154	1,104	1,188	1,356
Palmerston North	916	916	916	1,017	1,080	1,155
Masterton ..	1,028	1,092	1,018	920	1,030	1,179
Blenheim ..	1,056	1,096	1,038	1,055	1,154	1,291
Nelson ..	1,080	1,111	1,010	998	1,173	1,265
Greymouth ..	1,082	1,123	1,068	1,040	1,112	1,230
Ashburton ..	1,029	1,029	1,029	1,013	1,080	1,179
Timaru ..	1,036	1,048	1,014	1,039	1,080	1,187
Oamaru ..	919	1,009	1,012	1,044	1,094	1,257
Alexandra ..	1,055	1,140	1,147	1,052	1,138	1,345
Gore	1,054	1,088	1,052	1,049	1,095	1,201
Invercargill ..	996	1,049	1,029	996	1,084	1,247

The index numbers of retail prices of dairy-produce also show a very decided increase in 1915 over the corresponding quarters of 1914. The two main commodities in this group, milk and butter, vary greatly in supply and price at different periods of the year, and this difference is shown by a general fall in the index number for the spring quarter, September.

But a great rise in the price-level is evident when the corresponding quarters of 1915 and 1914 are compared. This increase is not confined to one or two towns, but is apparent over the whole Dominion.

The very high figures for June quarter, 1915, reflect the great rise in the price of butter which was general in that period. Eggs also rose in price and contributed to increase the index numbers. In a normal year June quarter stands out as the highest peak in the year, since prices of dairy-products are then at their high winter level. Naturally, as the season develops in September quarter prices drop.

June quarter, 1915, also saw higher winter prices of milk, and this factor accounted for very big increases in the index numbers for Wellington, Rotorua, Waihi, Wanganui, Taihape, Masterton, Blenheim, Oamaru, Alexandra, and Invercargill.

The towns which show the highest prices of dairy-produce are Taihape and Rotorua, while the least expensive are New Plymouth and Palmerston North.

GROUP III.—MEAT.—TWENTY-FIVE REPRESENTATIVE TOWNS.

Index Numbers for each Quarter of 1914 and for the First Two Quarters of 1915 for Twenty-five Representative Towns in New Zealand.

(Base: Average annual aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Town.	First Quarter, 1914.	Second Quarter, 1914.	Third Quarter, 1914.	Fourth Quarter, 1914.	First Quarter, 1915.	Second Quarter, 1915.
Auckland ..	1,258	1,258	1,258	1,290	1,274	1,233
Wellington ..	1,103	1,103	1,103	1,157	1,178	1,173
Christchurch ..	1,002	1,002	1,241	1,241	1,169	1,050
Dunedin ..	1,056	1,056	1,197	1,127	1,197	1,139
Whangarei ..	1,102	1,164	1,164	1,303	1,290	1,266
Hamilton ..	1,115	1,115	1,115	1,277	1,273	1,271
Rotorua ..	1,168	1,168	1,129	1,190	1,219	1,240
Waihi ..	1,137	1,137	1,137	1,139	1,068	1,245
Gisborne ..	938	1,055	1,055	1,217	1,234	1,180
Napier ..	1,043	1,043	1,095	1,195	1,208	1,208
Dannevirke ..	1,003	1,003	1,055	1,129	1,129	1,146
New Plymouth	1,203	1,203	1,203	1,330	1,343	1,350
Wanganui ..	1,014	1,156	1,003	1,030	1,055	1,090
Taihape ..	1,114	1,114	1,114	1,114	1,136	1,130
Palmerston North	981	981	981	1,133	1,129	1,188
Masterton ..	1,064	1,064	1,070	1,127	1,128	1,167
Blenheim ..	1,045	1,045	1,045	1,166	1,066	1,076
Nelson ..	1,126	1,126	1,126	1,154	1,201	1,127
Greymouth ..	1,104	1,326	1,364	1,414	1,377	1,365
Ashburton ..	1,142	1,142	1,162	1,216	1,249	1,251
Timaru ..	1,115	1,115	1,094	1,314	1,304	1,156
Oamaru ..	1,132	1,132	1,191	1,287	1,309	1,281
Alexandra ..	1,134	1,134	1,231	1,207	1,201	1,194
Gore	1,226	1,240	1,237	1,357	1,373	1,368
Invercargill ..	1,118	1,118	1,156	1,195	1,302	1,280

The price of meat, which had been rising continuously from 1891, jumped ahead very rapidly from 1912, till in 1914 it was at a very high level. The increase was general, but in Auckland it was especially noticeable. Consequently when the war came in the middle of 1914 meat prices were at a high level. Like practically all other New Zealand products, meat immediately commenced to rise in price; but a shortage of shipping-space disorganized the trade and prices fell again, notably in Auckland and Christchurch. The tendency to fall continued till the second quarter of 1915; but, as will be shown later, was succeeded by a sharp upward movement. The fall in prices, moreover, was only a temporary set-back, and prices have never on the Dominion average fallen to a level lower than obtained before the war.

This development is illustrated by the table just given. The decline referred to did not manifest itself in every town, but rather in one or two of the bigger centres. For instance, in the first quarter of 1915 nine

towns, including Auckland and Christchurch, show lower prices, and the majority of the towns show but slight increases. Some, however, notably Nelson, Gore, and Invercargill, show bigger increases than the general run.

In June quarter fifteen towns showed decreases, the greatest being in Timaru, Christchurch, and Nelson; one town is unchanged, and only nine show increases. The increases are greatest in Waihi, Palmerston North, and Masterton.

There are a few towns which show consistently high prices for meat. Auckland and Whangarei are fairly expensive; but the most expensive are New Plymouth, Greymouth, and Gore. The cheapest towns are Wanganui, Blenheim, and Christchurch.

THREE FOOD GROUPS.—TWENTY-FIVE REPRESENTATIVE TOWNS.

Index Numbers for each Quarter of 1914 and for the Two First Quarters of 1915 for Twenty-five Representative Towns in New Zealand.

(Base: Average annual aggregate expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Town.	First Quarter, 1914.	Second Quarter, 1914.	Third Quarter, 1914.	Fourth Quarter, 1914.	First Quarter, 1915.	Second Quarter, 1915.
Auckland ..	1,093	1,107	1,103	1,153	1,182	1,189
Wellington ..	1,078	1,103	1,106	1,189	1,182	1,224
Christchurch ..	1,014	1,030	1,124	1,102	1,161	1,136
Dunedin ..	1,055	1,064	1,101	1,157	1,193	1,183
Whangarei ..	1,042	1,082	1,094	1,152	1,212	1,225
Hamilton ..	1,084	1,092	1,086	1,177	1,207	1,240
Rotorua ..	1,136	1,144	1,129	1,214	1,250	1,273
Waihi ..	1,091	1,090	1,074	1,179	1,138	1,242
Gisborne ..	1,040	1,077	1,088	1,199	1,227	1,243
Napier ..	1,090	1,070	1,103	1,192	1,259	1,266
Dannevirke ..	1,040	1,040	1,066	1,150	1,176	1,204
New Plymouth ..	1,138	1,127	1,093	1,205	1,199	1,237
Wanganui ..	1,016	1,065	1,010	1,091	1,105	1,159
Taihape ..	1,132	1,129	1,151	1,251	1,255	1,297
Palmerston North	1,008	1,008	1,008	1,155	1,155	1,181
Masterton ..	1,054	1,065	1,060	1,123	1,194	1,237
Blenheim ..	1,053	1,068	1,092	1,223	1,188	1,205
Nelson ..	1,111	1,108	1,093	1,147	1,198	1,207
Greymouth ..	1,076	1,161	1,164	1,199	1,260	1,273
Ashburton ..	1,031	1,031	1,069	1,199	1,177	1,206
Timaru ..	1,046	1,045	1,052	1,200	1,209	1,170
Oamaru ..	1,034	1,057	1,114	1,298	1,247	1,241
Alexandra ..	1,119	1,138	1,179	1,222	1,268	1,277
Gore	1,119	1,108	1,099	1,237	1,278	1,272
Invercargill ..	1,085	1,066	1,083	1,129	1,223	1,235

By combining the food groups an index number representing the cost of foodstuffs is obtained, and, being a weighted average of the three groups, this index number gives the mean of their variations. It will be remembered that while the prices both of groceries and dairy-produce have increased considerably since the first quarter of 1914, meat has not increased nearly as much, so that the index number for foodstuffs is reduced.

General increases are observable over all the towns throughout the whole period. The extent of this increase is more evident when the quarters of 1915 are compared with the corresponding quarters of the previous year.

Wanganui and Christchurch divide the honour of being the cheapest towns in respect of food-prices. Timaru, Palmerston North, Dunedin, and Auckland are also cheap, and Waihi only lost its position in the second quarter of 1915 owing to an exceptionally great rise in meat-prices.

At the other end of the scale come a group of smaller towns—it is noticeable that the larger towns show prices relatively low compared with the smaller centres. Taihape, Alexandra, Greymouth, Rotorua, Gore, and Napier are more expensive than the average.

Group IV.—Rent.

The data for rent is not collected monthly as is the other data, but half-yearly, so that the figures quoted for March quarter, 1915, must stand for June quarter too. Changes in rent, as was stated previously, are relatively infrequent, and there is danger in trying to measure changes over short periods, from the fact that for many tenants the rent remains the same, though changes may take place in the value of houses. Leases, infrequent changes of residence, the difficulty of departing from customary rents, all militate against any effort to measure changes over short periods. There was only one collection of returns of rentals during 1914.

House-rent.—Twenty-five Representative Towns.

Index Numbers for 1914 and 1915 for House-rent in Twenty-five Towns of New Zealand.

(Base : Average annual aggregate expenditure four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

—	1914.	February, 1915.	August, 1915.
Auckland	1,032	920	963
Wellington	1,272	1,274	1,292
Christchurch	947	930	928
Dunedin	940	957	894
Whangarei	825	817	851
Hamilton	893	832	853
Rotorua	917	914	957
Waihi	570	598	606
Gisborne	947	962	943
Napier	983	983	839
Dannevirke	640	656	685
New Plymouth	858	883	1,102
Wanganui	888	850	850
Taihape	864	864	974
Palmerston North	734	877	856
Masterton	750	743	745
Blenheim	748	748	759
Nelson	892	946	1,016
Greymouth	700	753	718
Ashburton	698	818	734
Timaru	894	822	840
Oamaru	793	788	839
Alexandra	486	486	480
Gore	727	700	694
Invercargill	993	1,000	937

The results disclosed by the table are somewhat doubtful; but the main feature disclosed is the great local variation. Rents in Alexandra are only two-fifths the level of Wellington rents, and even in the large centres Wellington is 33⅓ per cent. higher than Christchurch or Dunedin.

The same variation is shown in the movements of rent, which seem to be governed almost wholly by local causes. In February, 1915, ten towns, including Auckland and Christchurch, showed decreases, the greatest being in Auckland, Timaru, and Hamilton; four towns were stationary; and eleven towns, including Wellington and Dunedin, showed increases, which were greatest in Palmerston North, Nelson, Greymouth, and Ashburton. Owing, however, to the very great drop in the largest town, Auckland, the general tendency of rents was downward.

In August seven towns which showed decreases in February had recovered somewhat, but seven which had shown increases dropped again. Six towns, including Wellington, continued their upward movement, and four, including Christchurch, continued to fall.

On the whole, the general tendency in February was to fall; but a recovery had set in by August.

The following table shows the positions of the towns in August compared with 1914:—

Risen since 1914.	Fallen since 1914.
Wellington.	Auckland.
Whangarei	Christchurch.
Rotorua.	Dunedin.
Waihi.	Hamilton.
Dannevirke.	Gisborne.
New Plymouth.	Napier.
Taihape.	Wanganui.
Palmerston North.	Masterton.
Blenheim.	Timaru.
Nelson.	Alexandra.
Greymouth.	Gore.
Ashburton.	Invercargill.
Oamaru.	

It will be seen that Wellington is the only one of the four big centres in which rents have risen, a fact which is perhaps due to the military activity of the Dominion being centred in the vicinity of Wellington; while Palmerston North, the only other large town to rise, has also benefited from this cause.

The other towns showing rising rents are mainly the smaller country towns already on the up-grade, to which the war has added prosperity.

Practically every trading town, including the three other big centres and Gisborne, Napier, Wanganui, Timaru, and Invercargill, all show decreases.

FOOD GROUPS AND RENT.—TWENTY-FIVE REPRESENTATIVE TOWNS.

Index Numbers for each Quarter of 1914 and for the Two First Quarters of 1915 for Twenty-five Representative Towns in New Zealand.

(Base : Average aggregate annual expenditure, four chief centres, 1909–13 = 1,000.)

Town.	First Quarter, 1914.	Second Quarter, 1914.	Third Quarter, 1914.	Fourth Quarter, 1914.	First Quarter, 1915.	Second Quarter, 1915.
Auckland ..	1,070	1,078	1,076	1,107	1,082	1,086
Wellington ..	1,152	1,168	1,169	1,221	1,217	1,243
Christchurch ..	988	998	1,056	1,043	1,073	1,057
Dunedin ..	1,011	1,016	1,040	1,074	1,103	1,096
Whangarei ..	959	983	991	1,027	1,061	1,069
Hamilton ..	1,011	1,016	1,012	1,068	1,063	1,084
Rotorua ..	1,052	1,057	1,048	1,101	1,122	1,136
Waihi ..	891	890	881	946	931	995
Gisborne ..	987	1,010	1,051	1,120	1,126	1,135
Napier ..	1,049	1,035	1,057	1,112	1,153	1,157
Dannevirke ..	887	887	903	955	977	994
New Plymouth ..	1,031	1,024	1,003	1,072	1,078	1,101
Wanganui ..	967	997	963	1,011	1,008	1,041
Taihape ..	1,030	1,027	1,041	1,103	1,105	1,131
Palmerston North	903	903	903	994	1,048	1,065
Masterton ..	937	944	941	980	1,021	1,048
Blenheim ..	936	945	960	1,058	1,019	1,029
Nelson ..	1,027	1,025	1,016	1,049	1,101	1,107
Greymouth ..	925	977	994	1,015	1,066	1,073
Ashburton ..	904	904	927	958	1,040	1,058
Timaru ..	996	996	983	1,075	1,060	1,037
Oamaru ..	942	956	991	1,105	1,071	1,067
Alexandra ..	876	888	914	940	968	974
Gore	969	962	956	1,042	1,057	1,053
Invercargill ..	1,050	1,038	1,048	1,077	1,138	1,145

The inclusion of rent materially alters the relative positions of a great many towns, especially taking away the advantage held by the bigger centres in the three food groups.

The most expensive town in New Zealand, when rent is taken into consideration, is Wellington, while Napier and Invercargill come close up. The lowest index number is shown by Alexandra, Dannevirke, and Waihi, and in all of these cases it is rent which determines the position on the scale. Auckland is tenth in June quarter, 1915, Dunedin ninth, and Christchurch seventeenth, in order of expense. The relative position of the twenty-five towns is shown on the thermometers on page 82.

The changes in the cost-of-living index number were simply a combination of the changes previously analysed.

PURCHASING-POWER OF MONEY, 1915 (SECOND QUARTER).

The following is included simply as an illustration of the different levels of prices in each of the twenty-five towns considered. Similar figures may easily be compiled for the various quarters by working from the index numbers, and equating 1,000 to 20s. The purchasing-power of money in

the average of the five years 1909–13 in the four centres is taken as the base and equated to 20s., the indices being worked out proportionately. The amounts displayed in the table may be compared vertically, but not horizontally, since the various groups have different bases.

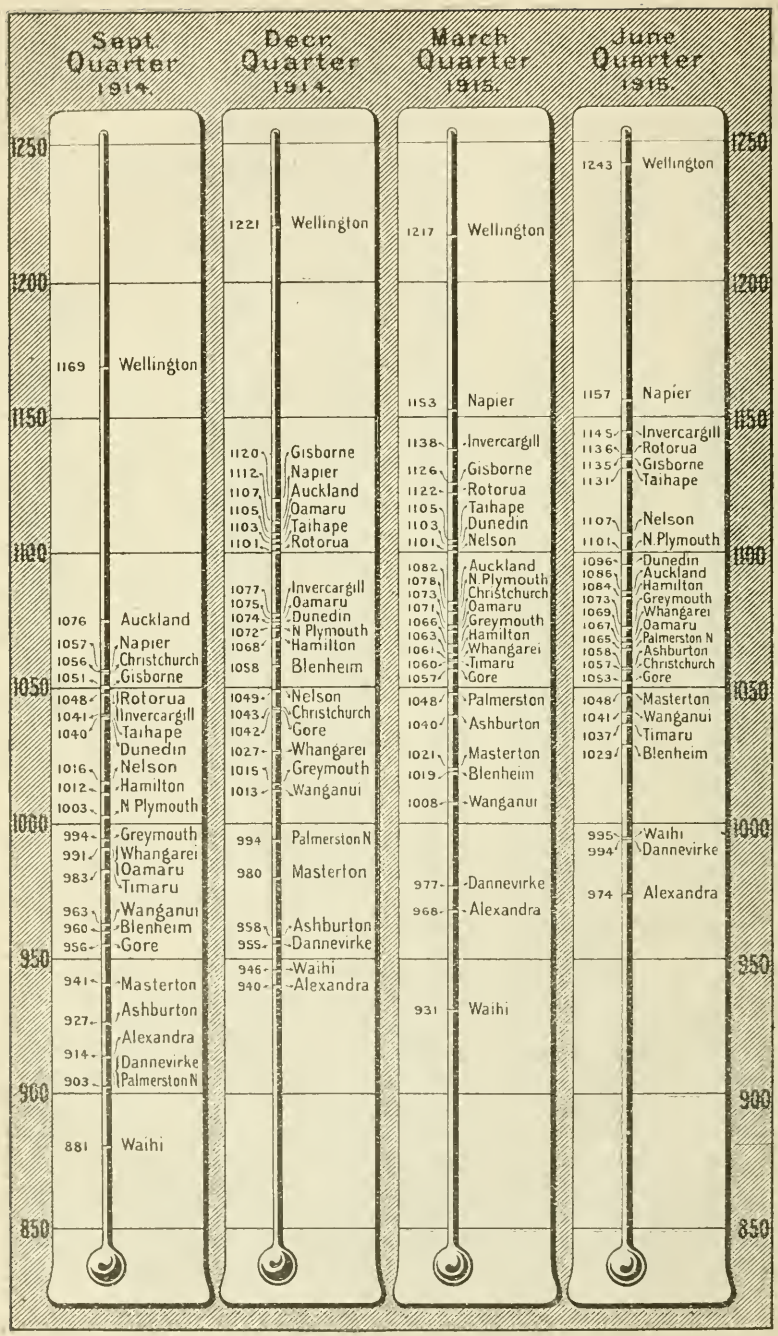
Amount required to purchase, in Twenty-five Representative Towns, in June Quarter, 1915, what would have cost 20s. in the Average of the Four Chief Centres, 1909–13.

Towns	Group I. Groceries.		Group II. Dairy-produce.		Group III. Meat.		Groups I–III. Food Groups.		House-rent.		All Groups.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Auckland ..	23	2½	23	6½	24	8	23	9¼	18	4¾	21	8¾
Wellington ..	24	6¼	25	10¾	23	5½	24	5¾	25	5¾	24	10¼
Christchurch ..	23	9½	23	3¾	21	0	22	8¾	18	7¼	21	1¾
Dunedin ..	24	1¾	24	0¾	22	9¼	23	8	19	1¾	21	11
Whangarei ..	24	3	23	9	25	3¾	24	6	16	4	21	4½
Hamilton ..	24	9	23	11½	25	5	24	9½	16	7¾	21	8¼
Rotorua ..	25	2½	26	11	24	9½	25	5½	18	3¼	22	8¾
Waihi ..	24	7	25	2¾	24	10¾	24	10	11	11½	19	10¾
Gisborne ..	25	4½	25	9	23	7¼	24	10¼	19	3	21	8½
Napier ..	26	9	24	4	24	2	25	3¾	19	8	23	1¾
Dannevirke ..	25	1½	23	10	22	11	24	1	13	1½	19	10½
New Plymouth ..	23	10½	23	0¼	27	0	24	9	17	8	22	0¼
Wanganui ..	22	11½	25	7	21	9½	23	2¼	17	0	20	9¾
Taihape ..	27	11½	27	1½	22	7¼	25	11¼	17	3¼	22	7½
Palmerston North	23	9½	23	1¼	23	9	23	7½	17	6½	21	3½
Masterton ..	26	6	23	7	23	4	24	9	14	10¼	20	11½
Blenheim ..	25	2¾	25	9¾	21	6¼	24	1¼	14	11½	20	7
Nelson ..	24	9¼	25	3½	22	6½	24	1¾	18	11	22	1¾
Greymouth ..	24	5½	24	7¼	27	3½	25	5½	15	0¾	21	5½
Ashburton ..	23	8¾	23	7	25	0¼	24	1½	16	4¼	21	2
Timaru ..	23	5½	23	9	23	1½	23	4¾	16	5¼	20	9
Oamaru ..	23	11¾	25	1¾	25	7½	24	9¾	15	9	21	4
Alexandra ..	26	1½	26	10¾	23	10½	25	6½	9	8¾	19	5¾
Gore	24	8	24	0¼	27	4¼	25	5¼	14	0	21	0¾
Invercargill ..	23	10	24	11¼	25	7¼	24	8½	20	0	22	10¾

NOTE.—Figures are comparable vertically but not horizontally.

COST-OF-LIVING THERMOMETER, 1914.

In all the foregoing tables giving information concerning prices in twenty-five towns the four chief centres are shown at the top of the list, the other towns following in geographical order. To see at a glance the positions occupied by the various towns in order of "cost of living," a diagram (see following page) is now given in the form of what may be called "cost-of-living" thermometers, whereon each town is shown opposite a point corresponding to its index number in the table referring to expenditure on all groups, for the last two quarters of 1914 and the first two quarters of 1915. The thermometers not only show the relative positions of the towns from the point of view of higher or lower "cost of living," but also give a good indication of the increases or decreases in any town throughout the year.


Sept. Quarter 1914.
Decr. Quarter 1914.
March Quarter 1915.
June Quarter 1915.
1250
1200
1150
1100
1050
1000
950
900
850
1169 Wellington
1076 Auckland
1057 Napier
1056 Christchurch
1051 Gisborne
1048 Rotorua
1041 Invercargill
1040 Taihape
Dunedin
1016 Nelson
1012 Hamilton
1003 N Plymouth
994 Greymouth
991 Whangarei
983 Oamaru
Timaru
963 Wanganui
960 Blenheim
956 Gore
941 Masterton
927 Ashburton
Alexandra
914 Dannevirke
903 Palmerston N
881 Waihi
1221 Wellington
1120 Gisborne
1112 Napier
1107 Auckland
1105 Oamaru
1103 Taihape
1101 Rotorua
1077 Invercargill
1075 Oamaru
1074 Dunedin
1072 N Plymouth
1068 Hamilton
1058 Blenheim
1049 Nelson
1043 Christchurch
1042 Gore
1027 Whangarei
1015 Greymouth
1013 Wanganui
994 Palmerston N
980 Masterton
958 Ashburton
955 Dannevirke
946 Waihi
940 Alexandra
1217 Wellington
1153 Napier
1138 Invercargill
1126 Gisborne
1122 Rotorua
1105 Taihape
1103 Dunedin
1101 Nelson
1082 Auckland
1078 N Plymouth
1073 Christchurch
1071 Oamaru
1066 Greymouth
1063 Hamilton
1061 Whangarei
1060 Timaru
1057 Gore
1048 Palmerston
1040 Ashburton
1021 Masterton
1019 Blenheim
1008 Wanganui
977 Dannevirke
968 Alexandra
931 Waihi
1243 Wellington
1157 Napier
1145 Invercargill
1136 Rotorua
1135 Gisborne
1131 Taihape
1107 Nelson
1101 N Plymouth
1096 Dunedin
1086 Auckland
1084 Hamilton
1073 Greymouth
1069 Whangarei
1067 Oamaru
1065 Palmerston N
1058 Ashburton
1057 Christchurch
1053 Gore
1048 Masterton
1041 Wanganui
1037 Timaru
1029 Blenheim
995 Waihi
994 Dannevirke
974 Alexandra

DOMINION INDEX NUMBERS, 1914–15.

To obtain a general estimate of the course of prices for the whole Dominion it has been necessary to obtain a weighted average of the index numbers for each town. It is obvious that it would not be strictly correct to obtain a simple average of the prices in Alexandra, with a population of 809, and in Auckland, with a population of over 100,000. So each town has been weighted according to its population, and a composite index number has been obtained, which, though artificial, represents the average level of prices in the Dominion.

It will be seen that the twenty-five towns considered have a total population of approximately half the population of New Zealand, so that they are representative of the Dominion. The four centres, which include a third of the Dominion's population, account for about 70 per cent. of the population of the twenty-five towns, so that their influence in the Dominion index number is naturally preponderating. This, however, is actually the case, because the centres not only comprise a great part of the people of the Dominion, but the standard set in them is followed by the whole countryside. The population of the towns is shown as estimated on the 31st March in each year.

POPULATION OF TWENTY-FIVE TOWNS AS ESTIMATED ON 31ST MARCH, 1914, AND 31ST MARCH, 1915.

Town.	1914.	1915.
Auckland	114,284	117,793
Wellington	75,143	74,811
Christchurch	86,410	87,756
Dunedin	69,057	69,158
Whangarei	2,865	2,825
Hamilton	3,908	4,097
Rotorua	2,636	2,763
Waihi	5,475	5,475
Gisborne	11,575	11,802
Napier	12,628	12,701
Dannevirke	3,656	3,680
New Plymouth	7,983	7,625
Wanganui	16,031	16,235
Taihape	1,874	1,874
Palmerston North	12,042	12,206
Masterton	5,781	5,690
Blenheim	4,010	3,885
Nelson	8,705	8,748
Greymouth	5,729	5,663
Ashburton	2,851	2,885
Timaru	12,702	13,123
Oamaru	5,499	5,560
Alexandra	809	809
Gore	3,510	3,566
Invercargill	17,868	18,067
Totals	493,031	498,797

The Dominion-weighted index number thus obtained is shown in the table below:—

—	First Quarter, 1914.	Second Quarter, 1914.	Third Quarter 1914.	Fourth Quarter, 1914.	First Quarter, 1915.	Second Quarter, 1915.
Groceries ..	1,039	1,038	1,071	1,078	1,210	1,201
Dairy-produce ..	1,042	1,089	1,032	1,017	1,100	1,212
Meat	1,107	1,117	1,177	1,221	1,213	1,171
Three food groups	1,063	1,077	1,098	1,155	1,186	1,194
House-rent ..	986	986	985	985	963	963
Food and rent ..	1,033	1,042	1,056	1,091	1,100	1,105

These figures show clearly a great rise in prices over the whole Dominion; but it must be remembered that they are quarterly figures, and therefore that seasonal fluctuations largely account for some of the movements that are evident.

In groceries an almost negligible change was converted by the war into a formidable rise in price, and the proper comparison of the first two quarters of 1914 and 1915 shows up this rise clearly. There are many commodities of a seasonal nature in this group, so that the comparison with other quarters is hardly desirable.

In dairy-produce the seasonal change is even more marked. In the year's interval a big rise is apparent, but this masks a rise and sharp decline followed by a further rise. The explanation is that in the second quarter prices are always higher for milk and butter, the two main commodities in this group. The third and fourth quarters saw a tendency to fall, which has been since converted by abnormal circumstances into a rise.

June quarter, 1915, saw an exceptionally heavy rise in prices of butter, and this was reflected in a 10-per-cent. increase in the index number for dairy-produce.

The prices of meat have been affected by outside circumstances, and the checking of the rise in prices lately has been due, no doubt, to the difficulties of export.

Taking the three food commodities together the temporary and special fluctuations are largely eliminated, and the figures show a steady rise.

House-rent, for which only one collection of data was made in 1914, shows a tendency to fall in the first quarter of the present year. This result has been averaged from conflicting tendencies over the different towns, some showing rising, some falling, rents; but the evidence particularly of Auckland has turned the scale.

Taking all groups together, the rise is again steady and continuous, being greatest between the third and fourth quarters of 1914. The slight check to the rate of increase that is apparent since then is due to the influence of rent.

For the period 1891–1914 it was possible to get returns only from the four chief centres, so that any comparison of a Dominion index number with the index number previously published is not strictly accurate. It is possible only to compare the average of the four chief centres, which, especially in rent, differ materially from the Dominion average. A table of comparison is given below:—

JUNE QUARTER, 1915.

Group.	Average of Four Centres.	Weighted Average of Twenty-five Towns.	Difference.
Groceries	1,196	1,201	+ 5
Dairy-produce	1,210	1,212	+ 2
Meat	1,149	1,171	+22
Three food groups..	1,183	1,194	+11
House-rent	1,020	963	−57
Food and rent	1,120	1,105	−15

From this table it may be seen that groceries, dairy-produce, and meat are all more expensive in the smaller towns than in the centres, though the difference is not usually very great. In meat, however, the divergence is greater in this quarter than in any other quarter since the beginning of 1914, due to an abrupt rise in some of the smaller towns.

In rent, the four centres, mainly because of the influence of Wellington, are far more expensive than the smaller towns, and rent outweighs the opposing tendency of the other groups.

CHAPTER V.—WAR INCREASES.

It is of public interest at this present time to ascertain just how far retail prices have risen since the war began. This report will have shown that prices rose continuously from 1896 to about 1911, and that in the last two or three years the tendency to increase was very sharply accentuated, so that the price-level in 1914 was already abnormally high. War was declared by Britain against Germany on the 4th August, 1914, and since that date prices have risen still higher above the already high level of 1914. It is not possible to say how much of the increased cost of living is due directly to the war and how much to other causes, but the following discussion shows the nature and extent of the increase.

It is perhaps advisable to state again that throughout the inquiry into retail prices the utmost care has been taken to give each commodity its proper weight in the index number. The whole method (as explained previously) is based on the relative annual consumptions of the different items in each group. Again, the index number for the three food groups in combination is not obtained directly from the index number of each group, since this would give equal importance to meat, groceries, and dairy-produce; but is calculated afresh from the aggregate expenditures, thus allotting the proper weight to each group, based, as before, on relative annual consumption. In compiling the Dominion index number, too, each town has been weighted according to its population. Finally, it must be emphasized that the prices used are obtained from representative retail merchants in the twenty-five towns, and are the predominant or most usual prices of the commodities in common use. It may therefore be claimed with confidence that the figures quoted below show accurately the changes in the cost of foodstuffs so far as they affect the mass of the community.

The aggregate-expenditure method by which the index numbers of prices are obtained is primarily intended for the production of an annual index number. The effect of weighting is obtained by fixing the mass-unit at the amount of the annual consumption of each commodity. But the consumption varies at different seasons of the year especially in certain commodities, and the compilation of an index number for shorter periods than a year is rendered somewhat artificial by this defect.

In the tables given below this seasonal fluctuation is in evidence; but as far as possible it will be noticed and explained. It is possible, now that a year has elapsed since the outbreak of war, to trace price-changes month by month, and also to eliminate the influence of the seasonal commodities, and, by comparing corresponding months of 1915 and 1914, to arrive at an estimate of the net increase since the beginning of the war. Index numbers have accordingly been compiled showing the level of prices in each town at monthly periods from July, 1914, to August, 1915, and the percentage increases over July have also been calculated.

Group I.—Groceries.

Index Numbers.

Town.	July, 1914.	August, 1914.	September, 1914.	October, 1914.	November, 1914.	December, 1914.	January, 1915.	February, 1915.	March, 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1915.	July, 1915.	August, 1915.	Increase per Cent. over July, 1914.
Auckland	1,001	1,041	1,012	1,046	1,111	1,184	1,121	1,174	1,171	1,156	1,160	1,163	1,175	1,180	17·88
Wellington	1,033	1,037	1,097	1,112	1,119	1,274	1,185	1,237	1,234	1,233	1,209	1,238	1,256	1,253	21·30
Christchurch.. ..	1,046	1,057	1,087	1,072	1,073	1,097	1,197	1,212	1,195	1,184	1,186	1,199	1,210	1,181	12·91
Dunedin	1,014	1,013	1,056	1,044	1,084	1,189	1,281	1,247	1,207	1,158	1,204	1,227	1,226	1,208	19·13
Whangarei	1,029	1,048	1,078	1,126	1,114	1,210	1,218	1,192	1,213	1,208	1,212	1,216	1,237	1,240	20·51
Hamilton	1,102	1,091	1,093	1,110	1,089	1,259	1,203	1,238	1,225	1,224	1,242	1,252	1,264	1,278	15·97
Rotorua	1,136	1,117	1,164	1,165	1,199	1,300	1,270	1,315	1,307	1,285	1,294	1,293	1,313	1,307	15·05
Waihi	1,065	1,049	1,067	1,077	1,151	1,291	1,172	1,209	1,214	1,233	1,243	1,232	1,253	1,279	20·09
Gisborne	1,079	1,085	1,135	1,145	1,265	1,256	1,288	1,266	1,267	1,267	1,271	1,268	1,266	1,262	16·96
Napier	1,117	1,130	1,156	1,165	1,246	1,299	1,359	1,357	1,358	1,345	1,345	1,319	1,334	1,314	17·64
Dannevirke	1,110	1,111	1,126	1,134	1,147	1,268	1,265	1,263	1,252	1,250	1,256	1,261	1,265	1,275	14·86
New Plymouth ..	1,087	1,052	1,069	1,099	1,109	1,263	1,149	1,203	1,188	1,181	1,194	1,192	1,193	1,232	13·34
Wanganui	995	990	1,019	1,020	1,075	1,185	1,110	1,136	1,130	1,146	1,145	1,154	1,198	1,170	17·59
Taihape	1,153	1,178	1,180	1,179	1,233	1,454	1,382	1,391	1,386	1,397	1,397	1,398	1,396	1,426	23·68
Palmerston North ..	1,034	1,033	1,047	1,147	1,210	1,241	1,221	1,220	1,209	1,190	1,178	1,202	1,204	1,200	16·05
Masterton	1,081	1,109	1,119	1,195	1,219	1,279	1,369	1,318	1,320	1,349	1,346	1,319	1,333	1,287	19·06
Blenheim	1,070	1,104	1,157	1,126	1,140	1,325	1,354	1,286	1,272	1,272	1,251	1,259	1,259	1,259	17·66
Nelson	1,092	1,110	1,118	1,116	1,133	1,233	1,171	1,213	1,245	1,242	1,230	1,244	1,251	1,251	14·56
Greymouth	1,051	1,059	1,081	1,075	1,138	1,196	1,274	1,241	1,227	1,217	1,211	1,239	1,250	1,196	13·80
Ashburton	944	1,033	1,059	1,083	1,089	1,087	1,132	1,195	1,197	1,185	1,185	1,186	1,178	1,209	28·07
Timaru	1,031	1,045	1,039	1,066	1,083	1,197	1,206	1,206	1,195	1,201	1,172	1,176	1,149	1,151	11·64
Oamaru	1,079	1,097	1,108	1,091	1,138	1,444	1,346	1,265	1,231	1,241	1,179	1,232	1,208	1,192	10·47
Alexandra	1,167	1,166	1,145	1,155	1,124	1,334	1,445	1,379	1,353	1,305	1,303	1,311	1,308	1,316	12·77
Gore	1,063	1,056	1,079	1,082	1,158	1,241	1,329	1,325	1,251	1,227	1,233	1,240	1,257	1,249	17·50
Invercargill	1,034	1,078	1,095	1,105	1,175	1,185	1,279	1,242	1,187	1,191	1,191	1,193	1,206	1,198	15·86
Dominion weighted average	1,033	1,048	1,068	1,079	1,116	1,201	1,203	1,221	1,207	1,195	1,197	1,209	1,219	1,210	17·13

Table showing the Increases per Cent. of Prices ruling in the Thirteen Months from August, 1914, to August, 1915, over the Prices ruling in July, 1914, for Twenty-five Representative Towns of New Zealand, and for the Dominion Weighted Average.

Town.	Index Nos. for July, 1914.	Percentages of Increase over July, 1914, on—												
		31st Aug., 1914.	30th Sept., 1914.	31st Oct., 1914.	30th Nov., 1914.	31st Dec., 1914.	31st Jan., 1915.	27th Feb., 1915.	31st Mar., 1915.	30th April, 1915.	31st May, 1915.	30th June, 1915.	15th July, 1915.	14th Aug., 1915.
Auckland ..	1,001	4·00	1·10	4·50	10·99	18·28	11·99	17·28	16·98	15·48	15·88	16·18	17·38	17·88
Wellington ..	1,033	0·39	6·20	7·65	8·33	23·33	14·71	19·75	19·46	19·36	17·04	19·85	21·59	21·30
Christchurch ..	1,046	1·05	3·92	2·49	2·58	4·88	14·44	15·87	14·24	13·19	13·38	14·63	15·68	12·91
Dunedin	1,014	—0·10	4·14	2·96	6·90	17·26	26·33	22·98	19·03	14·20	18·74	21·01	20·91	19·13
Whangarei ..	1,029	1·85	4·76	9·43	8·26	17·59	18·37	15·84	17·88	17·40	17·78	18·17	20·21	20·51
Hamilton ..	1,102	—1·00	—0·82	0·73	—1·18	14·25	9·17	12·34	11·16	11·07	12·70	13·61	14·70	15·97
Rotorua	1,136	—1·67	2·46	2·55	5·55	14·44	11·80	15·76	15·05	13·12	13·91	13·82	15·58	15·05
Waihi	1,065	—1·50	0·19	1·13	8·08	21·22	10·05	13·52	13·99	15·77	16·71	15·68	17·65	20·09
Gisborne	1,079	0·56	5·19	6·12	17·24	16·40	19·37	17·33	17·42	17·42	17·79	17·52	17·33	16·96
Napier	1,117	1·16	3·49	4·30	11·55	16·29	21·67	21·49	21·58	20·41	20·41	18·08	19·43	17·64
Dannevirke ..	1,110	0·09	1·44	2·16	3·33	14·23	13·96	13·78	12·79	12·61	13·15	13·60	13·96	14·86
New Plymouth ..	1,087	—3·22	—1·66	1·10	2·02	16·19	5·70	10·67	9·29	8·65	9·84	9·66	9·75	13·34
Wanganui ..	995	—0·50	2·41	2·51	8·04	19·10	11·56	14·17	13·57	15·18	15·08	15·98	20·40	17·59
Taihape	1,153	2·17	2·34	2·26	6·94	26·11	19·86	20·64	20·21	21·16	21·16	21·25	21·08	23·68
Palmerston North ..	1,034	—0·10	1·26	10·93	17·02	20·02	18·09	17·99	16·92	15·09	13·93	16·25	16·44	16·05
Masterton ..	1,081	2·59	3·52	10·55	12·77	18·32	26·64	21·92	22·11	24·79	24·51	22·02	23·31	19·06
Blenheim	1,070	3·18	8·13	5·23	6·54	23·83	26·54	20·19	18·88	18·88	16·92	17·66	17·66	17·66
Nelson	1,092	1·65	2·38	2·20	3·75	12·91	7·23	11·08	14·01	13·74	12·64	13·92	14·56	14·56
Greymouth ..	1,051	0·76	2·85	2·28	8·28	13·80	21·22	18·08	16·75	15·79	15·22	17·89	18·93	13·80
Ashburton ..	944	9·43	12·18	14·72	15·36	15·15	19·92	26·59	26·80	25·53	25·53	25·64	24·79	28·07
Timaru	1,031	1·36	0·78	3·39	5·04	16·10	16·97	16·97	15·91	16·49	13·68	14·06	11·45	11·64
Oamaru	1,079	1·67	2·69	1·11	5·47	33·83	24·75	17·24	14·09	15·01	9·27	14·18	11·96	10·47
Alexandra ..	1,167	—0·09	—1·89	—1·03	—3·68	14·31	23·82	18·17	15·94	11·83	11·65	12·34	12·08	12·77
Gore	1,063	—0·66	1·51	1·79	8·94	16·75	25·02	24·65	17·69	15·43	15·99	16·65	18·25	17·50
Invercargill ..	1,034	4·26	5·90	6·87	13·64	14·60	23·69	20·12	14·80	15·18	15·18	15·38	16·63	15·86
Dominion weighted average	1,033	1·45	3·39	4·45	8·03	16·26	16·46	18·20	16·84	15·68	15·88	17·04	18·01	17·13

The minus sign (—) signifies a decrease.

The first group. groceries, composed really of the three distinct sub-groups treated above, shows, on the average, a considerable increase of prices, amounting to about 18 per cent. in the course of the year. The increase was steady from July to November, showing a gradually increasing progression, till a big jump came in December. Practically every town in New Zealand showed greatly increased prices in that month, though some, such as Gisborne and Palmerston, showed the increase in November, and others, like Alexandra, Gore, and Invercargill, not till January. In all cases this sudden rise was a reflection of the high price of new potatoes. which were just then coming into general consumption.

Though prices showed a general tendency to fall as potatoes became cheaper, higher prices of flour and bread kept up and increased the cost of living till July. August, however, showed a tendency to fall, again reflecting the changed prices of these agricultural products.

The various towns show a considerable divergence from the average, the highest increases being in Ashburton and Taihape, the lowest in Oamaru, Timaru, Alexandra, and Christchurch. The four centres move about equally with the other towns, Christchurch being the lowest and Wellington the highest.

The price of bread is of special interest here, and index numbers have been calculated for each of the four centres for bread alone. These are shown in the following table.

BREAD.

Table showing Index Number for each Month from July, 1914, to August, 1915 (inclusive), for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin. together with Monthly Increases per Cent. over the Index Numbers of July, 1915.

Month.	Auckland.	Increase per Cent.	Wellington.	Increase per Cent.	Christchurch.	Increase per Cent.	Dunedin.	Increase per Cent.
July, 1914 ..	1,169	..	1,023	..	1,169	..	1,023	..
August, 1914 ..	1,169	..	1,023	..	1,169	..	1,023	..
September, 1914	1,169	..	1,169	14·27	1,169	..	1,169	14·27
October, 1914 ..	1,316	12·57	1,169	14·27	1,169	..	1,169	14·27
November, 1914	1,316	12·57	1,169	14·27	1,169	..	1,169	14·27
December, 1914	1,316	12·57	1,316	28·64	1,169	..	1,316	28·64
January, 1915 ..	1,316	12·57	1,316	28·64	1,316	12·57	1,316	28·64
February, 1915	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91
March, 1915 ..	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91
April, 1915 ..	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91
May, 1915 ..	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91
June, 1915 ..	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91
July, 1915 ..	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91
August, 1915 ..	1,462	25·06	1,462	42·91	1,389	18·82	1,462	42·91

The price of bread naturally advances irregularly, by a succession of jumps, as successive halfpennies are added to the price of the 2 lb. loaf.

This fact explains the repetition of the same index numbers in the table just given.

When war broke out the 2 lb. loaf was a halfpenny dearer in Christchurch and Auckland than in the other two centres; but by September the price had evened up in all four centres. In October Auckland led the way with another increase, followed by Wellington and Dunedin in December, and Christchurch in January. In February there was another jump, this time in all the centres, and bread remained at this level (5d. per loaf) till July. In August Christchurch had lowered the price again.

The percentage increases are rather deceptive, since Christchurch and Auckland began from a higher level.

Following the division already made in the preceding chapters of this report, the three subgroups of groceries have been analysed separately, and the results are shown in the tables given below.

GROUP 1A.

Table showing Index Numbers for each Month from July, 1914, to August, 1915 (inclusive), for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, together with Monthly Increases per Cent. over the Index Numbers of July 1914.

Month.	Auckland.	Increase per Cent.	Wellington.	Increase per Cent.	Christchurch.	Increase per Cent.	Dunedin.	Increase per Cent.
July, 1914 ..	978	..	1,103	..	1,057	..	1,116	..
August, 1914 ..	998	2·00	1,072	−2·81	1,059	0·19	1,061	−4·93
September, 1914	975	−0·31	1,076	−2·45	1,068	1·04	1,094	−1·97
October, 1914 ..	986	0·82	1,092	−1·00	1,045	−1·14	1,037	−7·08
November, 1914	986	0·82	1,065	−3·45	1,052	−0·47	1,048	−6·09
December, 1914	984	0·61	1,085	−1·63	1,072	1·42	1,084	−2·87
January, 1915 ..	1,003	2·56	1,063	−3·63	1,058	0·09	1,127	0·99
February, 1915	979	0·10	1,071	−2·90	1,059	0·19	1,096	−1·79
March, 1915 ..	983	0·51	1,084	−1·72	1,071	1·32	1,089	−2·42
April, 1915 ..	986	0·82	1,070	−2·99	1,056	−0·09	1,062	−4·84
May, 1915 ..	980	0·20	1,056	−4·26	1,049	−0·76	1,088	−2·51
June, 1915 ..	984	0·61	1,064	−3·54	1,052	−0·47	1,102	−1·25
July, 1915 ..	985	0·72	1,079	−2·18	1,050	−0·66	1,100	−1·43
August, 1915 ..	991	1·33	1,078	−2·27	1,049	−0·76	1,084	−2·87

The minus sign (−) signifies a decrease.

The first subgroup, "general groceries," shows remarkably uniform results in each of the four centres considered. This group, the definition of which will be found in Chapter II of this report, includes twenty-five commodities of general use.

Auckland shows a slight tendency to increase over the whole period; but the other three towns show a general tendency to decrease slightly. The total effect of these changes is, however, very slight, and prices of this subgroup have remained practically unchanged throughout the period.

Many of these items, such, for instance, as rice, sago, tapioca, pepper, are sold in such small quantities that it is impossible to reflect any but a very great increase in wholesale prices, and in many cases the effect of rising prices was borne by the retailer. In other articles, such as jam and golden syrup, the price is to a large extent customary and has not shifted much.

The whole of this investigation has been based on the "predominant" price—that is, the most usual price of the grade or quality most frequently sold. Thus in the case of articles like tea, people who are used to buying tea at 1s. 6d. per pound may continue still to buy at the same price, though the quality of tea may not be the same. Similarly advances in cost may be met rather by changes in quality than by increased prices.

GROUP 1B.

Table showing Index Numbers for each Month from July, 1914, to August, 1915 (inclusive), for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, together with Monthly Increases per Cent. over the Index Numbers of July, 1914.

Month.	Auckland.	Increase per Cent.	Wellington.	Increase per Cent.	Christchurch.	Increase per Cent.	Dunedin.	Increase per Cent.
July, 1914 ..	1,067	..	1,011	..	1,019	..	925	..
August, 1914 ..	1,145	7·31	1,021	0·99	1,042	2.26	981	6·05
September, 1914	1,070	0·28	1,124	11·18	1,077	5·69	1,031	11·46
October, 1914 ..	1,127	5·62	1,126	11·37	1,066	4·61	1,044	12·86
November, 1914	1,246	16·78	1,176	16·32	1,022	0·29	1,091	17·95
December, 1914	1,406	31·77	1,520	50·35	1,054	3·43	1,311	41·73
January, 1915 ..	1,234	15·65	1,319	30·46	1,313	28·85	1,475	59·46
February, 1915	1,389	30·18	1,442	42·63	1,348	32·38	1,425	54·05
March, 1915 ..	1,378	29·15	1,418	40·26	1,293	26·89	1,335	44·32
April, 1915 ..	1,339	25·49	1,431	41·54	1,314	28·95	1,248	34·92
May, 1915 ..	1,354	26·90	1,380	36·50	1,302	27·77	1,330	43·78
June, 1915 ..	1,356	27·09	1,423	40·75	1,323	29·83	1,367	47·78
July, 1915 ..	1,365	27·93	1,437	42·14	1,352	32·68	1,355	48·49
August, 1915 ..	1,370	28·40	1,438	42·24	1,284	26·01	1,329	43·68

The five agricultural products have risen in price unmistakably, and it is mainly their increases which have focussed public attention upon the subject. A steady increase in the early months of the war was in December converted into a great rise by the exceptionally high prices of potatoes in that month.

In this subgroup bread has an even greater influence than in the whole group, and it is this influence which gives Auckland and Christchurch the appearance of having suffered less from rising prices than the other centres. Over the four centres, which are typical of the whole country, the increased cost of living in this subgroup has been very considerable, and this higher level has been operative at least since the beginning of 1915, and till August showed little sign of recession.

GROUP 1c.

Table showing Index Numbers for each Month from July, 1914, to August, 1915 (inclusive), for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, together with Monthly Increases per Cent. over the Index Numbers of July, 1914.

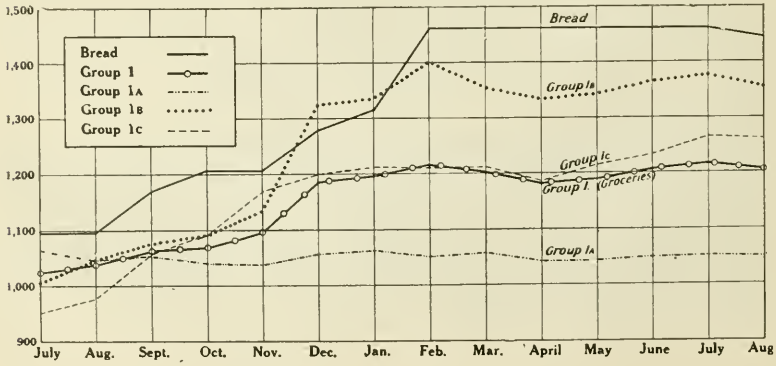
Month.	Auckland.	Increase per Cent.	Wellington.	Increase per Cent.	Christchurch.	Increase per Cent.	Dunedin.	Increase per Cent.
July, 1914 ..	883	..	883	..	1,091	..	948	..
August, 1914 ..	883	..	976	10·53	1,091	..	957	0·95
September, 1914	961	8·83	1,086	22·99	1,169	7·15	1,009	6·43
October, 1914 ..	1,000	13·25	1,132	28·20	1,169	7·15	1,065	12·34
November, 1914	1,117	26·50	1,125	27·41	1,281	17·42	1,175	23·95
December, 1914	1,169	32·39	1,160	31·37	1,299	19·07	1,169	23·31
January, 1915 ..	1,169	32·39	1,177	33·30	1,299	19·07	1,205	27·11
February, 1915	1,164	31·82	1,169	32·39	1,299	19·07	1,210	27·64
March, 1915 ..	1,162	31·60	1,174	32·96	1,299	19·07	1,208	27·43
April, 1915 ..	1,162	31·60	1,174	32·96	1,212	11·09	1,198	26·37
May, 1915 ..	1,169	32·39	1,195	35·33	1,281	17·42	1,206	27·22
June, 1915 ..	1,169	32·39	1,247	41·22	1,299	19·07	1,213	27·95
July, 1915 ..	1,221	38·28	1,290	46·09	1,299	19·07	1,250	31·86
August, 1915 ..	1,221	38·28	1,268	43·60	1,299	19·07	1,250	31·86

The third subgroup in groceries, 1c, consists of the one commodity, sugar; and here again a great increase of price is evident, amounting on the average to about 33 per cent.

In each of the four centres prices rose almost immediately after the war, and increased rapidly till December and more slowly thereafter. In Christchurch prices were at a higher level when war broke out, and this is responsible for the low figure of increase shown in that town, although prices are higher there than in the other three towns. The greatest increase has been in Wellington.

In order to give a graphical illustration of the course of prices of the groceries group, the following graph has been prepared showing each subgroup, bread, and the whole group. It must be emphasized that each graph has a different base: 1,000 means a different expenditure in each case: that the relative increases, not the relative levels, are intended to be compared.

Index Numbers of Retail Prices of Bread, and Group 1, 1a, 1b, and 1c.



Group II.—Dairy-produce.

Index Numbers.

Town.	July, 1914.	August, 1914.	September, 1914.	October, 1914.	November, 1914.	December, 1914.	January, 1915.	February, 1915.	March, 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1915.	July, 1915.	August, 1915.	Increase per Cent. over July, 1914.
Auckland	1,008	989	991	1,003	1,036	1,041	1,079	1,094	1,129	1,181	1,169	1,182	1,203	1,140	13·10
Wellington	1,163	1,107	1,035	1,052	1,042	1,078	1,102	1,109	1,146	1,295	1,315	1,276	1,322	1,259	8·25
Christchurch ..	1,024	1,000	994	904	911	1,019	1,040	1,080	1,110	1,172	1,167	1,154	1,178	1,140	11·33
Dunedin	1,075	1,038	1,054	1,024	1,032	1,040	1,056	1,094	1,123	1,195	1,222	1,190	1,209	1,185	10·23
Whangarei	1,031	1,007	1,002	997	1,035	1,049	1,072	1,092	1,117	1,169	1,187	1,205	1,217	1,143	10·86
Hamilton	1,032	1,023	1,022	999	942	1,048	1,062	1,097	1,111	1,207	1,189	1,198	1,196	1,142	10·66
Rotorua	1,114	1,103	1,061	1,072	1,095	1,094	1,140	1,223	1,257	1,349	1,349	1,339	1,317	1,181	6·01
Waihi	1,044	998	992	998	1,030	1,035	1,073	1,107	1,206	1,284	1,296	1,202	1,301	1,231	17·91
Gisborne	1,089	1,074	1,060	1,064	1,068	1,075	1,103	1,128	1,163	1,291	1,314	1,255	1,266	1,212	11·29
Napier	1,088	1,088	1,096	1,018	1,105	1,130	1,116	1,157	1,179	1,245	1,221	1,187	1,266	1,171	7·63
Dannevirke	1,075	1,027	1,030	1,039	1,044	1,059	1,026	1,103	1,124	1,163	1,218	1,193	1,241	1,136	5·67
New Plymouth ..	1,018	1,004	974	974	986	910	1,027	1,095	961	1,083	1,162	1,129	1,129	1,119	9·92
Wanganui	1,022	1,001	991	1,000	1,003	1,008	1,045	1,183	1,202	1,270	1,301	1,265	1,274	1,242	21·53
Taihape	1,184	1,154	1,045	1,063	1,069	1,081	1,106	1,220	1,237	1,322	1,364	1,352	1,341	1,258	6·25
Palmerston North ..	918	918	916	902	902	1,017	1,044	1,096	1,099	1,182	1,190	1,092	1,093	1,034	12·64
Masterton	1,040	1,006	1,014	917	928	942	1,062	990	1,039	1,161	1,202	1,175	1,224	1,144	10·00
Blenheim	1,088	1,049	1,041	1,049	1,056	1,055	1,061	1,188	1,212	1,279	1,314	1,279	1,287	1,282	17·83
Nelson	1,165	1,124	1,010	994	1,031	1,034	1,153	1,178	1,187	1,225	1,281	1,291	1,276	1,280	9·87
Greymouth	1,098	1,067	1,051	1,020	1,045	1,070	1,076	1,112	1,153	1,231	1,249	1,210	1,207	1,192	8·56
Ashburton	1,028	1,034	1,009	1,012	1,015	1,018	1,049	1,094	1,097	1,161	1,211	1,167	1,170	1,160	12·84
Timaru	1,039	1,025	1,015	1,013	1,016	1,039	1,059	1,086	1,097	1,192	1,196	1,174	1,193	1,150	10·68
Oamaru	1,033	1,036	1,016	1,018	1,018	1,041	1,032	1,083	1,166	1,193	1,313	1,265	1,296	1,275	23·43
Alexandra	1,164	1,164	1,147	1,031	1,039	1,052	1,064	1,106	1,245	1,312	1,368	1,353	1,370	1,349	15·89
Gore	1,083	1,085	1,052	1,037	1,031	1,048	1,061	1,099	1,125	1,166	1,219	1,207	1,230	1,207	11·45
Invercargill	1,042	1,023	977	983	1,002	1,008	1,026	1,101	1,126	1,218	1,281	1,244	1,308	1,214	16·51
Dominion weighted average	1,057	1,029	1,013	995	1,008	1,040	1,069	1,102	1,131	1,210	1,223	1,202	1,229	1,178	11·45

Table showing the Increases per Cent. of Prices ruling in the Thirteen Months from August, 1914, to August, 1915, over the Prices ruling in July, 1914, for Twenty-five Representative Towns of New Zealand, and for the Dominion Weighted Average.

Town.	Index Nos. for July, 1914.	Percentages of Increase over 31st July, 1914, on—												
		31st Aug., 1914.	30th Sept., 1914.	31st Oct., 1914.	30th Nov., 1914.	31st Dec., 1914.	31st Jan., 1915.	27th Feb., 1915.	31st Mar., 1915.	30th April, 1915.	31st May, 1915.	30th June, 1915.	15th July, 1915.	14th Aug., 1915.
Auckland	1,008	−1·88	−1·69	−0·50	2·78	3·27	7·04	8·53	12·00	17·16	15·97	17·26	19·35	13·10
Wellington ..	1,163	−4·82	−11·01	−9·54	−10·40	−7·31	−5·25	−4·64	−1·46	11·35	13·07	9·72	13·67	8·25
Christchurch ..	1,024	−2·34	−2·93	−11·72	−11·04	−0·49	1·56	5·47	8·40	14·45	13·96	12·70	15·04	11·33
Dunedin	1,075	−3·44	−1·95	−4·74	−4·00	−3·26	−1·77	1·77	4·47	11·16	13·67	10·70	12·47	10·23
Whangarei ..	1,031	−2·33	−2·81	−3·30	0·39	1·75	3·98	5·92	8·34	13·39	15·13	16·88	18·04	10·86
Hamilton	1,032	−0·87	−0·97	−3·20	−8·72	1·55	2·91	6·30	7·66	16·96	15·21	16·09	15·89	10·66
Rotorua	1,114	−0·99	−4·76	−3·77	−1·71	−1·80	2·33	9·78	12·84	21·10	21·10	20·20	18·22	6·01
Waihi	1,044	−4·41	−4·98	−4·41	−1·34	−0·86	2·78	6·03	15·52	22·99	24·14	15·13	24·62	17·91
Gisborne	1,089	−1·38	−2·66	−2·30	−1·93	−1·29	1·29	3·58	6·80	18·55	20·66	15·24	16·25	11·29
Napier	1,088	..	0·74	−6·43	1·56	3·86	2·57	6·34	8·36	14·43	12·22	9·10	16·36	7·63
Dannevirke ..	1,075	−4·47	−4·19	−3 35	−2·88	−1 49	−4·56	2·60	4·56	8·19	13·30	10·98	15·44	5·67
New Plymouth ..	1,018	−1·38	−4·32	−4·32	−3·14	−10·61	0·88	7·56	−5·60	6·39	14·15	10·90	10·90	9·92
Wanganui ..	1,022	−2·05	−3·03	−2·15	−1·86	−1·37	2·25	15·75	17·61	24·27	27·30	23·78	24·66	21·53
Taihape	1,184	−2·53	−11·74	−10·22	−9·71	−8·70	−6·59	3·04	4·48	11·66	15·20	14·19	13·26	6·25
Palmerston North ..	918	..	−0·22	−1·74	−1·74	10·78	13·73	19·39	19·72	28·76	29·63	18·95	19·06	12·64
Masterton ..	1,040	−3·27	−2·50	−11·83	−10·77	−9·42	2·12	−4·81	−0·10	11·63	15·58	12·98	17·69	10·00
Blenheim	1,088	−3·58	−4·32	−3·58	−2·94	−3·03	−2·48	9·19	11·40	17·56	20·77	17·56	18·29	17·83
Nelson	1,165	−3·52	−13·30	−14·68	−11·50	−11·24	−1·03	1·12	1·89	5·15	9·96	10·82	9·53	9·87
Greymouth ..	1,098	−2·82	−4·28	−7·10	−4·83	−2·55	−2·00	1·28	5·01	12·11	13·75	10·20	9·93	8·56
Ashburton ..	1,028	0·58	−1·85	−1·56	−1·26	−0·97	2·04	6·42	6·71	12·94	17·80	13·52	13·81	12·84
Timaru	1,039	−1·35	−2·31	−2·50	−2·21	..	1·92	4·52	5·58	14·73	15·11	12·99	14·82	10·68
Oamaru	1,033	0·29	−1·65	−1·45	−1·45	0·77	−0·10	4·84	12·88	15·49	27·11	22·46	25·46	23·43
Alexandra ..	1,164	..	−1·46	−11·43	−10·74	−9·62	−8·59	−4·98	6·96	12·71	17·53	16·24	17·70	15·89
Gore	1,083	−2·31	−2·86	−4·25	−4·80	−3·23	−2·03	1·48	3·88	7·66	12·56	11·45	13·57	11·45
Invercargill ..	1,042	−1·82	−6·24	−5·66	−3·84	−3·26	−1·54	5·66	8·06	16·89	22·94	19·39	25·53	16·51
Dominion weighted average	1,057	−2·65	−4·16	−5·87	−4·64	−1·61	1·14	4·26	7·00	14·47	15·70	13·72	16·27	11·45

The minus sign (−) signifies a decrease.

In this second group, dairy-products, two commodities, milk and butter, have a dominating influence, and account on the average for about 70 per cent. of the total expenditure, each being, roughly, of the same importance. The supply of each is very much affected by the seasons, and even in normal years there is always a considerable difference between winter and summer prices.

In July, 1914, these commodities were naturally at their high winter level, and with the opening of the season prices declined, notwithstanding the war. This decline continued steadily till the end of October, by which time average prices were about 6 per cent. lower than in July. From November onward prices rose greatly, but it was not till the end of January that they were higher than in July, 1914.

April saw another big jump, and prices continued at a high level, till twelve months after the outbreak of war they were 16¼ per cent. above the former level. This figure shows the proper comparison of corresponding months, and thus eliminates seasonal fluctuations. In August prices again fell as in the previous year, and this fall shows a tendency to continue.

By taking the rise in prices from the lowest spring price to the highest winter price it is possible to get the figure of 23½ per cent. rise, but this is inadmissible for the reasons quoted above.

The increased prices are fairly uniform over the whole country, the highest, however, being shown by Invercargill, Oamaru, Wanganui, and Waihi. The uniformity of increase is confirmed by the position of the median and the mode as compared with the weighted arithmetic average. In July the positions were—

Weighted arithmetic mean	16·27 per cent.
Median	16·25 ,,
Mode	16–17 ,,

The mode is not very sharply defined; there is a tendency to accumulation at 16 per cent., again at 18 per cent., and still again at 25 per cent.; and each of these figures is applicable to a group of towns. But reclassification shows the mode to lie nearer 16 per cent. than any other figure.

The same regularity is shown by the dispersion about the median, the two quartiles 18·67 per cent. and 13·62 per cent. being almost exactly at equal distances from the median 16·25 per cent.

The highest actual prices, as distinct from increases in price, are shown by Alexandra, Blenheim, Nelson, and Wellington. The lowest prices are again registered by Palmerston North, with Auckland, Christchurch, and New Plymouth a good deal higher. The divergence in the price-levels of Auckland and Wellington is noticeable throughout. With the exception of Wellington the centres compare very favourably with the rest of the country.

Butter.

Table showing Index Numbers for each Month from July, 1914, to August, 1915 (inclusive), for Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch, and Dunedin, together with Monthly Increases per Cent. over the Index Numbers of July, 1914.

Month.	Auckland.	Increase per Cent.	Wellington.	Increase per Cent.	Christchurch.	Increase per Cent.	Dunedin.	Increase per Cent.
July, 1914 ..	924	..	1,066	..	995	..	1,066	..
August, 1914 ..	995	7·68	995	—6·60	995	..	1,066	..
September, 1914 ..	977	5·74	1,031	—3·28	995	..	1,031	—3·28
October, 1914 ..	977	5·74	1,066	..	995	..	995	—6·60
November, 1914 ..	1,031	11·58	1,031	—3·28	995	..	995	—6·60
December, 1914 ..	1,031	11·58	1,066	..	995	..	995	—6·60
January, 1915 ..	1,137	23·05	1,137	6·66	1,066	7·14	995	—6·60
February, 1915 ..	1,120	21·21	1,120	5·07	1,137	14·27	1,066	..
March, 1915 ..	1,137	23·05	1,137	6·66	1,137	14·27	1,090	2·25
April, 1915 ..	1,280	38·53	1,291	21·11	1,256	26·23	1,259	18·11
May, 1915 ..	1,297	40·37	1,339	25·61	1,280	28·64	1,351	26·74
June, 1915 ..	1,333	44·26	1,327	24·48	1,285	29·15	1,351	26·74
July, 1915 ..	1,422	53·90	1,469	37·80	1,351	35·78	1,412	32·46
August, 1915 ..	1,351	46·21	1,339	25·61	1,327	33·37	1,422	33·40

— Signifies decrease.

The price of butter has attracted a good deal of attention, and in the preceding table index numbers have been compiled for that commodity alone.

The greatest advance in price was in Auckland, which showed from July, 1914, to July, 1915, an increase of nearly 54 per cent. The actual price, however, was at its highest point in Wellington in July, 1915. In no town was there a great rise in prices until the beginning of 1915. Auckland rose moderately, but the other centres showed either stationary or falling prices. The first months of 1915, however, showed a definite advance, which continued until July in the three northern centres and till August in Dunedin. Christchurch prices tend to be lower than any of the other towns. The average increase in the four centres to July, 1914, was about 40 per cent., but the drop in prices in August reduced this figure to 35 per cent. The actual prices on which these increases were calculated will be found in an appendix to this report.

Group III.—Meat.

Index Numbers.

Town.	July, 1914.	August, 1914.	September, 1914.	October, 1914.	November, 1914.	December, 1914.	January, 1915.	February, 1915.	March, 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1915.	July, 1915.	August, 1915.	Increase per Cent. over July, 1914.
Auckland	1,258	1,258	1,258	1,300	1,300	1,274	1,278	1,274	1,295	1,295	1,204	1,218	1,218	1,317	4·69
Wellington	1,090	1,090	1,100	1,118	1,207	1,207	1,176	1,177	1,180	1,169	1,180	1,171	1,172	1,171	7·43
Christchurch	1,070	1,070	1,115	1,179	1,168	1,159	1,184	1,181	1,144	1,070	1,035	1,050	1,053	1,235	15·42
Dunedin	1,056	1,080	1,196	1,162	1,211	1,197	1,200	1,183	1,186	1,162	1,138	1,116	1,097	1,150	8·90
Whangarei	1,164	1,164	1,164	1,286	1,286	1,303	1,296	1,289	1,284	1,277	1,252	1,270	1,269	1,331	14·35
Hamilton	1,123	1,123	1,139	1,278	1,278	1,271	1,271	1,271	1,271	1,271	1,271	1,271	1,271	1,271	13·18
Rotorua	1,146	1,150	1,128	1,195	1,201	1,189	1,190	1,234	1,233	1,233	1,228	1,258	1,258	1,339	16·84
Waihi	1,137	1,137	1,137	1,137	1,139	1,139	1,065	1,068	1,068	1,105	1,246	1,245	1,246	1,248	9·76
Gisborne	1,055	1,055	1,055	1,055	1,219	1,219	1,231	1,239	1,232	1,234	1,243	1,061	1,061	1,130	7·11
Napier	1,043	1,043	1,193	1,201	1,201	1,208	1,201	1,208	1,201	1,208	1,208	1,208	1,208	1,208	15·82
Dannevirke	1,010	1,073	1,129	1,128	1,127	1,130	1,127	1,129	1,132	1,152	1,148	1,139	1,143	1,312	29·90
New Plymouth ..	1,228	1,228	1,220	1,216	1,343	1,330	1,340	1,340	1,340	1,340	1,343	1,355	1,355	1,355	10·34
Wanganui	1,080	1,003	1,003	1,000	1,030	1,030	1,046	1,071	1,050	1,060	1,096	1,113	1,109	1,249	15·65
Taihape	1,105	1,105	1,105	1,105	1,104	1,104	1,132	1,132	1,142	1,142	1,130	1,130	1,130	1,308	18·37
Palmerston North ..	985	960	978	1,106	1,147	1,133	1,127	1,139	1,126	1,143	1,217	1,205	1,201	1,365	38·58
Masterton	1,084	1,080	1,131	1,150	1,115	1,163	1,117	1,118	1,150	1,167	1,167	1,167	1,169	1,313	21·13
Blenheim	1,045	1,045	1,045	1,047	1,051	1,051	1,046	1,064	1,082	1,076	1,076	1,076	1,084	1,083	3·64
Nelson	1,136	1,136	1,125	1,201	1,130	1,150	1,209	1,205	1,200	1,126	1,128	1,128	1,128	1,081	4·84
Greymouth	1,361	1,257	1,257	1,386	1,437	1,352	1,377	1,376	1,377	1,362	1,379	1,354	1,378	1,377	1·18
Ashburton	1,141	1,141	1,224	1,243	1,164	1,243	1,246	1,249	1,251	1,251	1,251	1,251	1,255	1,256	10·08
Timaru	1,115	1,115	1,086	1,305	1,293	1,314	1,314	1,308	1,292	1,234	1,197	1,036	1,060	1,206	8·16
Oamaru	1,132	1,132	1,191	1,270	1,266	1,287	1,314	1,296	1,293	1,299	1,284	1,259	1,285	1,263	11·57
Alexandra	1,134	1,136	1,233	1,203	1,196	1,207	1,202	1,202	1,202	1,195	1,192	1,195	1,170	1,194	5·29
Gore	1,236	1,240	1,239	1,350	1,371	1,349	1,371	1,371	1,377	1,377	1,369	1,359	1,359	1,365	10·44
Invercargill	1,118	1,128	1,256	1,017	1,294	1,314	1,304	1,299	1,303	1,299	1,277	1,264	1,276	1,271	13·69
Dominion weighted average	1,126	1,126	1,162	1,188	1,223	1,214	1,216	1,214	1,212	1,193	1,166	1,159	1,158	1,238	9·95

The minus sign (–) signifies a decrease.

Table showing the Increases per Cent. of Prices ruling in the Thirteen Months from August, 1914, to August 1915, over the Prices ruling in July, 1914, for Twenty-five Representative Towns of New Zealand, and for the Dominion Weighted Average.

Town.	Index Nos. for July, 1914.	Percentages of Increase over 31st July, 1914, on—												
		31st Aug., 1914.	30th Sept., 1914.	31st Oct., 1914.	30th Nov., 1914.	31st Dec., 1914.	31st Jan., 1915.	27th Feb., 1915.	31st Mar., 1915.	30th April, 1915.	31st May, 1915.	30th June, 1915.	15th July, 1915.	14th Aug., 1915.
Auckland ..	1,258	..	..	3·34	3·34	1·27	1·59	1·27	2·94	2·94	4·29	−3·18	−3·18	4·69
Wellington ..	1,090	..	0·92	2·57	10·73	10·73	7·89	7·98	8·26	7·25	8·26	7·43	7·52	7·43
Christchurch ..	1,070	..	4·21	10·19	9·16	8·32	10·65	10·37	6·92	..	−3·27	−1·87	−1·59	15·42
Dunedin ..	1,056	2·27	13·26	10·04	14·68	13·35	13·64	12·03	12·31	10·04	7·77	5·68	3·88	8·90
Whangarei ..	1,164	..	..	10·48	10·48	11·94	11·34	10·74	10·31	9·71	7·56	9·11	9·02	14·35
Hamilton ..	1,123	..	1·42	13·80	13·80	13·18	13·18	13·18	13·18	13·18	13·18	13·18	13·18	13·18
Rotorua ..	1,146	0·35	−1·57	4·28	4·80	3·75	3·84	7·68	7·59	7·59	7·16	9·77	9·77	16·84
Waihi	1,137	..	..	..	0·18	0·18	−6·33	−6·07	−6·07	−2·81	9·59	9·50	9·59	9·76
Gisborne ..	1,055	..	..	..	15·55	15·55	16·68	17·44	16·78	16·97	17·82	0·57	0·57	7·11
Napier	1,043	..	14·38	15·15	15·15	15·82	15·15	15·82	15·15	15·82	15·82	15·82	15·82	15·82
Dannevirke ..	1,010	6·24	11·78	11·68	11·58	11·88	11·58	11·78	12·08	14·06	13·66	12·77	13·17	29·90
New Plymouth ..	1,228	..	−0·65	−0·98	9·36	8·31	9·12	9·12	9·12	9·12	9·36	10·34	10·34	10·34
Wanganui ..	1,080	−7·13	−7·13	−7·41	−4·63	−4·63	−3·15	−0·83	−2·78	−1·85	1·48	3·06	2·69	15·65
Taihape ..	1,105	..	..	..	−0·09	−0·09	2·44	2·44	3·35	3·35	2·26	2·26	2·26	18·37
Palmerston North	985	−2·54	−0·71	12·28	16·45	15·03	14·42	15·63	14·31	16·04	23·55	22·34	21·93	38·58
Masterton ..	1,084	−0·37	4·34	6·09	2·86	7·29	3·04	3·14	6·09	7·66	7·66	7·66	7·84	21·13
Blenheim ..	1,045	..	..	0·19	0·57	0·57	0·10	1·82	3·54	2·97	2·97	2·97	3·73	3·64
Nelson	1,136	..	−0·97	5·72	−0·53	1·23	6·43	6·07	5·63	−0·88	−0·77	−0·77	−0·77	−5·50
Greymouth ..	1,361	−7·64	−7·64	1·84	5·58	−0·66	1·18	1·10	1·18	0·07	1·32	−0·51	1·25	1·18
Ashburton ..	1,141	..	7·27	8·94	2·02	8·94	9·20	9·47	9·64	9·64	9·64	9·64	9·99	10·08
Timaru ..	1,115	..	−2·60	17·04	15·96	17·85	17·85	17·31	15·87	10·67	7·35	−7·09	−4·93	8·16
Oamaru ..	1,132	..	5·21	12·19	11·84	13·69	16·08	14·49	14·22	14·75	13·43	11·22	13·52	11·57
Alexandra ..	1,134	0·18	8·73	6·08	5·47	6·44	6·00	6·00	6·00	5·38	5·11	5·38	3·17	5·29
Gore	1,236	0·32	0·24	9·22	10·92	9·14	10·92	10·92	11·41	11·41	10·76	9·95	9·95	10·44
Invercargill ..	1,118	0·89	12·34	−9·03	15·74	17·53	16·64	16·19	16·55	16·19	14·22	13·06	14·13	13·69
Dominion weighted average	1,126	..	3·20	5·51	8·61	7·82	7·99	7·82	7·64	5·95	3·55	2·93	2·84	9·95

The minus sign (−) signifies a decrease.

The price of meat has been subject to influences quite peculiar to this group, and its movement is quite distinct from the other groups treated.

Since 1891 the price of meat had been advancing steadily; but in 1912 began a great advance in prices in all the centres, and by 1914 the increase in three years was as great as in the twenty years previous. In Auckland especially prices in 1914 were at a very high level, a fact which is reflected by the table just given, and all over the Dominion prices were high.

At the beginning of the war prices began to rise steadily, and in November were over 8½ per cent. higher than in July, a rise at least proportionate to the rises shown by the other groups. This, however, was the highest increase shown till quite recently. For two or three months prices were checked, and in the early months of 1915, as the shortage of shipping-space became more pressing, prices steadily declined till July. Even here, however, they were still 3 per cent. above the prices ruling before the war, and the average level of meat-prices in the Dominion has never fallen below the level of July, 1914.

In August, 1915, a great rise is again evident, and prices then were 10 per cent. ahead of the previous year.

There has been some discrepancy in the increases shown by the various towns, and some call for special notice here. Auckland, which all along had risen but little above its already high prices, fell in May 4 per cent. below that level, and this decline continued till August. Christchurch at the same time showed a decline, due primarily to the shipping disorganization, but this was converted in August into an emphatic rise of over 15 per cent. Nelson and Timaru show decreases similar to that of Christchurch. It was the influence mainly of the two big towns—which together contain a third of the population considered, and therefore have a corresponding weight—which caused the drop in the Dominion index number for May, June, and July.

Most towns have risen steadily all over the period; but two show unusually great increases. In Palmerston North an increase rather above the average jumped in August to the very high figure of 38·58 per cent., and Dannevirke saw a similar jump to 29·90 per cent.

The highest prices of meat are shown in Greymouth, which is followed closely by Gore and Palmerston North, the latter having risen rapidly from the position of the cheapest town in the Dominion to be almost the most expensive town as far as meat is concerned. The cheapest towns are Nelson, which actually shows lower prices now than before the war, and Blenheim. Until August Christchurch was the least expensive of the four centres; but a rise of nearly 17 per cent. in that month placed it next to Auckland and a good deal above Wellington and Dunedin.

Food Groups I–III.

Index Numbers.

Town.	July, 1914.	August, 1914.	September, 1914.	October, 1914.	November, 1914.	December, 1914.	January, 1915.	February, 1915.	March, 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1915.	July, 1915.	August, 1915.	Increase per Cent. over July, 1914.
Auckland	1,090	1,103	1,091	1,122	1,158	1,181	1,165	1,189	1,203	1,209	1,177	1,186	1,196	1,217	11·65
Wellington	1,083	1,072	1,083	1,100	1,131	1,206	1,163	1,187	1,195	1,225	1,223	1,224	1,243	1,226	13·20
Christchurch.. ..	1,049	1,048	1,075	1,069	1,068	1,100	1,156	1,171	1,158	1,143	1,130	1,138	1,149	1,190	13·44
Dunedin	1,042	1,042	1,103	1,080	1,115	1,157	1,201	1,190	1,180	1,168	1,186	1,181	1,178	1,183	13·53
Whangarei	1,075	1,078	1,090	1,151	1,154	1,204	1,211	1,202	1,215	1,222	1,220	1,232	1,244	1,249	16·19
Hamilton	1,093	1,086	1,092	1,141	1,119	1,214	1,194	1,217	1,214	1,236	1,240	1,246	1,251	1,244	13·82
Rotorua	1,135	1,125	1,128	1,154	1,176	1,214	1,212	1,266	1,270	1,282	1,284	1,292	1,295	1,289	13·57
Waihi	1,085	1,067	1,073	1,079	1,119	1,180	1,113	1,137	1,162	1,201	1,256	1,230	1,262	1,257	15·85
Gisborne	1,073	1,072	1,090	1,095	1,204	1,202	1,226	1,225	1,231	1,261	1,272	1,195	1,196	1,205	12·30
Napier	1,085	1,090	1,155	1,143	1,198	1,229	1,249	1,260	1,263	1,275	1,269	1,250	1,275	1,245	14·75
Dannevirke	1,068	1,079	1,105	1,110	1,116	1,172	1,162	1,180	1,181	1,197	1,210	1,204	1,218	1,255	17·51
New Plymouth ..	1,119	1,101	1,098	1,109	1,160	1,204	1,186	1,225	1,187	1,212	1,237	1,233	1,233	1,248	11·53
Wanganui	1,030	997	1,007	1,010	1,043	1,092	1,073	1,125	1,120	1,146	1,164	1,166	1,185	1,214	17·86
Taihape	1,144	1,148	1,123	1,127	1,151	1,248	1,233	1,263	1,268	1,293	1,299	1,296	1,293	1,347	17·74
Palmerston North ..	990	982	994	1,076	1,117	1,152	1,148	1,164	1,155	1,172	1,194	1,177	1,177	1,218	23·03
Masterton	1,073	1,075	1,099	1,115	1,117	1,161	1,212	1,174	1,197	1,243	1,252	1,234	1,252	1,262	17·61
Blenheim	1,066	1,071	1,092	1,081	1,090	1,169	1,181	1,188	1,193	1,207	1,206	1,201	1,206	1,204	12·95
Nelson	1,124	1,122	1,095	1,117	1,108	1,159	1,180	1,202	1,216	1,198	1,207	1,2 6	1,215	1,227	9·16
Greymouth	1,167	1,128	1,134	1,168	1,218	1,220	1,263	1,257	1,261	1,270	1,277	1,271	1,284	1,257	7·71
Ashburton	1,030	1,070	1,103	1,121	1,097	1,124	1,152	1,190	1,192	1,202	1,214	1,204	1,202	1,214	17·86
Timaru	1,061	1,064	1,050	1,135	1,139	1,200	1,209	1,213	1,205	1,210	1,186	1,128	1,129	1,169	10·18
Oamaru	1,086	1,095	1,115	1,135	1,154	1,297	1,262	1,233	1,237	1,250	1,246	1,240	1,254	1,235	13·72
Alexandra	1,155	1,156	1,176	1,142	1,129	1,225	1,274	1,256	1,277	1,269	1,280	1,281	1,275	1,282	11·00
Gore	1,127	1,119	1,127	1,163	1,201	1,233	1,281	1,288	1,265	1,264	1,276	1,273	1,285	1,279	13·49
Invercargill	1,064	1,082	1,123	1,047	1,148	1,218	1,229	1,229	1,212	1,234	1,241	1,229	1,254	1,227	15·32
Dominion weighted average	1,070	1,070	1,087	1,096	1,126	1,169	1,190	1,205	1,205	1,212	1,191	1,190	1,200	1,213	13·36

Table showing the Increases per Cent. of Prices ruling in the Thirteen Months from August, 1914, to August, 1915, over the Prices ruling in July, 1914, for Twenty-five Representative Towns of New Zealand, and for the Dominion Weighted Average.

Town.	Index Nos. for July, 1914.	Percentages of Increase over 31st July, 1914, on—												
		31st Aug., 1914.	30th Sept., 1914.	31st Oct., 1914.	30th Nov., 1914.	31st Dec., 1914.	31st Jan., 1915.	27th Feb., 1915.	31st Mar., 1915.	30th April, 1915.	31st May, 1915.	30th June, 1915.	15th July, 1915.	14th Aug., 1915.
Auckland ..	1,090	1·19	0·09	2·94	6·24	8·35	6·88	9·08	10·37	10·92	7·98	8·81	9·72	11·65
Wellington ..	1,083	—1·02	..	1·57	4·43	11·36	7·39	9·60	10·34	13·11	12·93	13·02	14·77	13·20
Christchurch ..	1,049	—0·10	2·48	1·91	1·82	4·86	10·20	11·63	10·39	8·96	7·72	8·48	9·53	13·44
Dunedin ..	1,042	..	5·85	3·65	7·01	11·04	15·26	14·20	13·24	12·09	13·82	13·34	13·05	13·53
Whangarei ..	1,075	0·28	1·40	7·07	7·35	12·00	12·65	11·81	13·02	13·67	13·49	14·60	15·72	16·19
Hamilton ..	1,093	—0·64	—0·09	4·39	2·38	11·07	9·24	11·34	11·07	13·08	13·45	14·00	14·46	13·82
Rotorua ..	1,135	—0·88	—0·62	1·67	3·61	6·96	6·78	11·54	11·89	12·95	13·13	13·83	14·10	13·57
Waihi	1,085	—1·66	—1·11	—0·55	3·13	8·76	2·58	4·79	7·10	10·69	15·76	13·36	16·31	15·85
Gisborne ..	1,073	—0·09	1·58	2·05	12·21	12·02	14·26	14·17	14·73	17·52	18·55	11·37	11·46	12·30
Napier	1,085	0·46	6·45	5·35	10·41	13·27	15·12	16·13	16·41	17·51	16·96	15·21	17·51	14·75
Dannevirke ..	1,068	1·03	3·46	3·93	4·49	9·74	8·80	10·49	10·58	12·08	13·30	12·73	14·04	17·51
New Plymouth ..	1,119	—1·61	—1·88	—0·89	3·66	7·60	5·99	9·47	6·08	8·31	10·55	10·19	10·19	11·53
Wanganui ..	1,030	—3·20	—2·23	—1·94	1·26	6·02	4·17	9·22	8·74	11·26	13·01	13·20	15·05	17·86
Taihape ..	1,144	0·35	—1·84	—1·49	0·61	9·09	7·78	10·40	10·84	13·02	13·55	13·29	13·02	17·74
Palmerston North	990	—0·81	0·40	8·69	12·83	16·36	15·96	17·58	16·67	18·38	20·61	18·89	18·89	23·03
Masterton ..	1,073	0·19	2·42	3·91	4·10	8·20	12·95	9·41	11·56	15·84	16·68	15·00	16·68	17·61
Blenheim ..	1,066	0·47	2·44	1·41	2·25	9·66	10·79	11·44	11·91	13·23	13·13	12·66	13·13	12·95
Nelson	1,124	—0·18	—2·58	—0·62	—1·42	3·11	4·98	6·94	8·19	6·58	7·38	8·19	8·10	9·16
Greymouth ..	1,167	—3·34	—2·83	0·09	4·37	4·54	8·23	7·71	8·05	8·83	9·43	8·91	10·03	7·71
Ashburton ..	1,030	3·88	7·09	8·83	6·50	9·13	11·84	15·53	15·73	16·70	17·86	16·89	16·70	17·86
Timaru ..	1,061	0·28	—1·04	6·97	7·35	13·10	13·95	14·33	13·57	14·04	11·78	6·31	6·41	10·18
Oamaru ..	1,086	0·83	2·67	4·51	6·26	19·43	16·21	13·54	13·90	15·10	14·73	14·18	15·47	13·72
Alexandra ..	1,155	0·09	1·82	—1·13	—2·25	6·06	10·30	8·74	10·56	9·87	10·82	10·91	10·39	11·00
Gore	1,127	—0·71	..	3·19	6·57	9·41	13·66	14·29	12·24	12·16	13·22	12·95	14·02	13·49
Invercargill ..	1,064	1·69	5·55	—1·60	7·89	14·47	15·51	15·51	13·91	15·98	16·64	15·51	17·86	15·32
Dominion weighted average	1,070	..	1·59	2·43	5·23	9·25	11·21	12·62	12·62	13·27	11·31	11·21	12·15	13·36

The minus sign (—) signifies a decrease.

Before discussing the final table it is well to note once more that in combining the three groups care has been taken to give each its proper weight. It is evident that the increase is fairly uniform over most of the towns, though the lower figures for Auckland and Christchurch are directly due to the decreased price of meat in those towns. The highest increase in food-prices has been in Palmerston North, 23 per cent.; the lowest in Greymouth, 8 per cent.; while the Dominion weighted average shows 13·36 per cent. It is worth while noting the variations of the different averages which may be used. The simple arithmetic average, giving each town an equal weight, makes the Dominion average 14·20 per cent., thus showing that the increase has been greater in the smaller than in the larger towns. The unweighted median, or the percentage which stands midway on the list, tends to lessen the influence of extremes, and is in this case represented by Rotorua, 13·57 per cent. The unweighted mode, or the percentage at which the greatest number of instances are found, is located between 13–14 per cent.—nearer to 14 per cent., while there is another tendency towards a mode at 18 per cent. So that it is evident that the most general rate of increase over the various towns is something just about 14 per cent. But the weighted arithmetic average (13·36 per cent.) shows the average affecting the greatest bulk of the people. It is obvious, from the fact that the three unweighted averages coincide around 14 per cent., while the weighted average is only 13·36 per cent., that the increase is less in the large centres than in the smaller towns.

So many statements of the increase in the cost of living have appeared within the last few months that it is desirable to state exactly the data on which the present estimate is based. It is very evident that many prices have increased more than 13 per cent.—for instance, butter, which was quoted in Wellington in July, 1914, at 1s. 3d. per pound, had risen in August, 1915, to nearly 1s. 7d., an increase of 26 per cent.: similarly, bread had increased from 3½d. to 5d.—nearly 43 per cent.; but, on the other hand, potatoes, which in July, 1914, were 1s. for 14 lb., were in August, 1915, 1s. 4·41d. for 14 lb., an increase of 33 per cent., while items like tea and soap have remained unchanged in price over this period.

It is impossible and inaccurate to state any increase of general prices from a few items which may or may not have risen equally with other items. The ideal statement would naturally be a comparison of the changes in prices of all articles weighted according to the actual amounts consumed; but this is obviously impossible. The device of index numbers is used as the nearest practical approximation to this ideal. As was fully explained in a former chapter, a fairly large list of commodities was selected as typical of each group, and prices were collected covering these commodities. To each commodity was assigned a weight which represented its relative importance in the investigation: for instance, the 2 lb. loaf of bread is given the weight of 1085, the 2 lb. tin of treacle is given the weight of 2. This means that the importance of these commodities is emphasized in this proportion; and this system of weighting has been carefully applied within each group and in combining the groups. A full

list of the commodities and the relative weights assigned to each has been given previously.

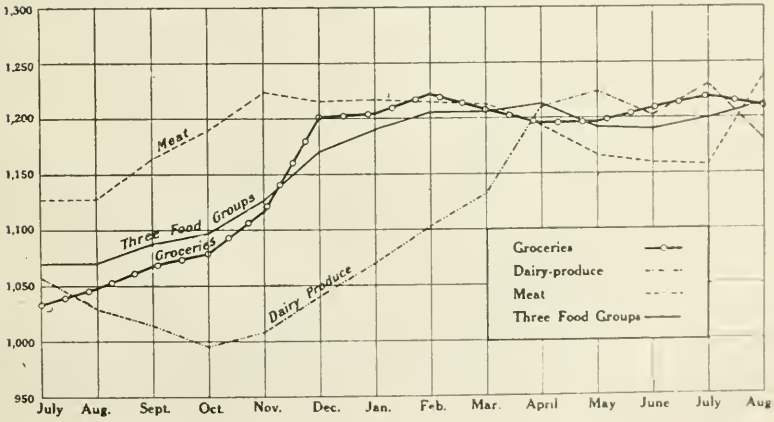
It will be noticed that this present chapter has been confined to the three food groups, and that no mention has been made of rent. Since the outbreak of war rent has shown a tendency to decrease, the average decrease over the Dominion being about $1\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.; and if this item of rent is added to the other groups, it bulks so largely that the cost of living does not appear to have risen nearly as greatly as is really the case. The great majority of householders have not yet been affected by the fall in rent, so that the increase in the cost of living is best shown, as above, in the three food groups above.

The statement given above may be conveniently summarized as follows:—

—	Increase per Cent.			
	Groceries.	Dairy-produce.	Meat.	Three Food Groups.
Auckland	17·88	13·10	4·69	11·65
Wellington	21·30	8·25	7·43	13·20
Christchurch	12·91	11·33	15·42	13·44
Dunedin..	19·13	10·23	8·90	13·53
Average of four centres ..	17·80	10·73	9·11	12·95
Weighted average of Dominion	17·13	11·45	9·95	**13·36**

The course of the increased prices is shown by the following graph, comparing the three groups separately and in combination.

Graph of Three Food Groups separately and in combination, July, 1914, to August, 1915.



To illustrate the course of prices further, the weekly budget which was compiled for five-yearly periods earlier in this report has been again compiled month by month since July, 1914. As noted before, this method of illustration emphasizes the influence of a few important commodities, especially bread, potatoes, and butter, and therefore the increases shown are rather in excess of the figures given previously.

The same increases are, however, evident, and it is possible from the budget to follow the course of prices of each group. Groceries show the same advance in December due to new potatoes, and dairy-produce a jump in April due to increasing prices of butter. The rise and fall in meat-prices and the recovery in August are also well marked.

No account has been taken of rents, which cannot be measured at such short intervals, and it was deemed best to give the increased prices of food-stuffs only.

Weekly Budgets.

Table showing the Comparative Costs of an Assumed Weekly Household Consumption of certain Foodstuffs in the Months between July, 1914, and August, 1915 (inclusive), and the Percentages of Increases over the Prices ruling in July, 1914.

(Based on the average of the four chief centres.)

Commodity.	Quantity.	Average Cost.												
		July, 1914.	Aug., 1914.	Sept., 1914.	Oct., 1914.	Nov., 1914.	Dec., 1914.	Jan., 1915.	Feb., 1915.	Mar., 1915.	April, 1915.	May, 1915.	June, 1915.	July, 1915.	Aug., 1915.
Groceries—		s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Bread	Seven 2 lb. loaves	2 2¼	2 2¼	2 4	2 4¾	2 4¾	2 6½	2 7½	2 10	2 11	2 11	2 11	2 11	2 11	2 10½
Flour	3 lb. ..	0 4½	0 5½	0 5¾	0 5¾	0 6	0 6¼	0 6½	0 7¼	0 7½	0 7½	0 7¼	0 7¼	0 7¼	0 6¾
Oatmeal ..	1 lb. ..	0 2	0 2¼	0 2¼	0 2¼	0 2¼	0 2¼	0 2¼	0 2½	0 2¾	0 2¾	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3
Rice	1 lb. ..	0 2¼	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½	0 2¼	0 2¼	0 2½	0 2½	0 2½
Tea	½ lb. ..	0 9½	0 9½	0 9½	0 9¼	0 9¼	0 9½	0 9¾	0 9¼	0 9¼	0 9½	0 9½	0 9¾	0 9¾	0 9¾
Cocoa	⅛ lb. ..	0 5¼	0 5½	0 5¼	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5½	0 5¼	0 5¼	0 5½	0 5½	0 5¼
Sugar	3 lb. ..	0 6	0 6	0 6½	0 6¾	0 7¼	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7¼	0 7½	0 7½	0 7¾	0 7¾
Jam	2 lb. ..	0 11	0 11	0 11	0 11	0 11¼	0 11¼	0 11¼	0 11¼	0 11¼	0 11¼	0 11¼	0 11¼	0 11½	0 11¼
Raisins	½ lb. ..	0 2¾	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3	0 3
Potatoes ..	14 lb. ..	0 9¾	0 10¼	0 9¼	0 8¼	0 9¾	1 4½	1 3¾	1 3¼	1 0¼	1 0¼	0 11¾	1 0¾	1 1¼	1 1¼
Totals ..	..	6 7¼	6 9¾	6 11	6 11	7 1½	7 10¾	7 11	8 2	8 0½	8 0	7 11¾	8 1½	8 2½	8 1
Increase per cent.	..	...	3·15	4·73	4·73	7·89	19·56	19·87	23·66	21·77	21·14	20·82	23·03	24·29	22·40

Dairy-produce—																												
Milk	7 pts. ..	1	2¾	1	2¾	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2	1	2¾	1	2¾	1	2¾	1	2¾	1	2¾
Butter	3 lb. ..	3	6¾	3	6¾	3	6½	3	6½	3	6¾	3	7	3	9¾	3	10¾	3	11½	4	5¾	4	7½	4	7¾	4	11¾	4	9¼
Cheese	¼ lb. ..	0	2¼	0	2¼	0	2¼	0	2¼	0	2¼	0	2¼	0	2¼	0	2¼	0	2½	0	2½	0	2½	0	2½	0	2¾	0	2¾
Bacon	1 lb. ..	0	11½	0	11½	1	0¼	0	11¾	0	11¾	1	0¼	0	11¾	0	11¾	0	11¾	0	11¾	0	11¾	0	11¾	0	11¾	0	11¾
Totals ..	..	5	11¼	5	11¼	5	11	5	9½	5	9¾	5	11½	6	1¾	6	2¾	6	3¾	6	10¾	7	0½	7	0¾	7	5	7	2½
Increase per cent.	..	..		..		−0·35		−2·46		−2·11		0·35		3·51		4·91		6·32		16·14		18·60		18·95		24·91		21·40	
Meat—																													
Beef—																													
Sirloin ..	3 lb. ..	1	8½	1	8¾	1	9¼	1	8½	1	10½	1	10	1	9¾	1	10¾	1	10	1	9½	1	9¼	1	9¼	1	8¾	1	10½
Stewing-steak ..	2 lb. ..	0	11¾	1	0	1	0¼	1	1	1	1¼	1	1¼	1	1¼	1	1¼	1	1	1	1	1	0¼	1	0¼	1	0¼	1	0¾
Corned roll ..	1 lb. ..	0	5¼	0	5¼	0	5½	0	5¾	0	5¾	0	5¾	0	5¾	0	5½	0	5¾	0	5½	0	5½	0	5½	0	5½	0	6
Sausages ..	2 lb. ..	0	9¼	0	9½	0	9½	0	9½	0	9½	0	9½	0	9½	0	10	0	9½	0	9½	0	9¼	0	9¼	0	9¼	0	9¼
Mutton—																													
Leg	3 lb. ..	1	5¼	1	5¼	1	6	1	6¼	1	6¾	1	6¼	1	6¼	1	5¾	1	5¾	1	5¼	1	4¾	1	5	1	4¾	1	6¼
Shoulder ..	2 lb. ..	0	9½	0	9½	0	9¾	0	9¾	0	10¼	0	10¼	0	10¼	0	10	0	10	0	9¾	0	9½	0	9½	0	9½	0	10¼
Chops ..	2 lb. ..	1	0½	1	0½	1	1	1	1½	1	1½	1	1½	1	1½	1	1¾	1	1¼	1	0¾	1	0½	1	0¼	1	0½	1	1
Totals ..	..	7	2	7	2¾	7	5¼	7	6¼	7	9½	7	8½	7	8¼	7	9	7	7¼	7	5¼	7	3	7	3	7	2½	7	8
Increase per cent.	..	..		0·87		3·78		4·94		8·72		7·56		7·27		8·14		6·10		3·78		1·16		1·16		0·58		6·98	
Grand totals ..	..	19	8½	19	11¾	20	3¼	20	2¾	20	8¾	21	6¾	21	9	22	1¾	21	11½	22	4	22	3¼	22	5¼	22	10	22	11½
Increase per cent.	..	..		1·37		2·85		2·64		5·18		9·41		10·36		12·37		11·42		13·33		13·00		13·85		15·86		16·49	

Minus sign (—) signifies decrease.

APPENDIX A.

Retail Prices of Commodities in the Four Principal Towns of New Zealand from 1891 to 1913.

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	Bread, per 2 lb. Loaf.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	3·00	3·00	..	2·62
1892 ..	3·00	3·00	..	2·69
1893 ..	3·50	3·50	..	2·44
1894 ..	3·37	3·37	..	2·31
1895 ..	3·00	3·00	..	2·52
1896 ..	3·00	3·00	..	2·69
1897 ..	3·37	3·00	..	3·06
1898 ..	3·00	3·50	..	3·25
1899 ..	3·00	3·00	3·16	2·31
1900 ..	3·37	3·00	3·16	2·25
1901 ..	3·50	3·12	3·00	2·59
1902 ..	3·50	3·50	3·00	3·42
1903 ..	3·50	3·75	2·87	3·31
1904 ..	3·50	3·25	2·97	3·03
1905 ..	4·00	3·00	3·12	3·06
1906 ..	3·62	3·00	2·87	3·00
1907 ..	3·50	3·50	3·00	3·33
1908 ..	3·50	3·50	3·25	3·34
1909 ..	3·87	3·56	3·03	3·48
1910 ..	3·75	3·50	3·00	3·37
1911 ..	3·50	3·50	2·94	3·25
1912 ..	3·62	3·50	3·00	3·25
1913 ..	4·00	3·67	3·12	3·50
	Flour, per 25 lb. Bag.			
1891 ..	40·00	39·95	..	39·90
1892 ..	33·75	36·08	..	38·40
1893 ..	30·00	30·00	..	36·19
1894 ..	29·00	28·10	..	27·37
1895 ..	31·50	34·00	..	28·50
1896 ..	35·25	34·00	..	34·75
1897 ..	39·00	35·25	..	39·00
1898 ..	40·50	37·67	..	39·00
1899 ..	30·00	26·40	24·00	28·00
1900 ..	25·12	24·17	24·00	26·00
1901 ..	25·50	33·00	29·25	26·75
1902 ..	34·50	42·00	36·00	37·96
1903 ..	38·37	37·00	34·50	38·50
1904 ..	34·12	37·25	34·44	35·19
1905 ..	32·50	34·50	32·00	36·62
1906 ..	31·75	32·81	30·50	34·25
1907 ..	37·50	43·62	36·75	38·09
1908 ..	39·75	41·83	40·19	41·57
1909 ..	39·75	42·50	40·81	39·75
1910 ..	37·87	37·75	36·37	38·62
1911 ..	37·50	33·25	34·25	34·25
1912 ..	37·50	34·50	33·00	34·00
1913 ..	39·00	35·00	34·50	35·50
	Oatmeal, per 1 lb.			
1891 ..	1·39	1·71	..	1·57
1892 ..	1·43	1·71	..	1·60
1893 ..	1·43	1·71	..	1·82
1894 ..	1·39	1·71	..	1·71
1895 ..	1·39	1·71	..	1·58
1896 ..	1·46	1·71	..	1·70
1897 ..	1·64	1·61	..	1·91
1898 ..	1·68	1·71	..	1·96
1899 ..	1·46	1·71	1·71	1·62
1900 ..	1·50	1·71	1·71	1·84
1901 ..	1·53	2·14	1·43	1·80
1902 ..	1·96	2·00	1·96	1·95
1903 ..	1·64	1·79	1·86	1·91
1904 ..	1·43	1·61	1·43	1·68
1905 ..	1·46	1·71	1·50	1·80
1906 ..	1·79	1·98	1·71	1·66
1907 ..	2·07	2·13	2·14	2·16
1908 ..	2·00	2·13	2·04	2·05
1909 ..	1·75	1·82	1·79	1·80
1910 ..	2·00	1·77	1·86	1·77
1911 ..	2·00	1·96	2·00	2·00
1912 ..	2·11	2·16	2·00	2·07
1913 ..	2·14	1·86	2·07	2·04

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	Rice, per 1 lb.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	3·00	3·00	..	3·00
1892 ..	2·62	2·81	..	3·00
1893 ..	3·00	3·00	..	3·00
1894 ..	2·75	2·58	..	2·75
1895 ..	2·50	2.50	..	2·81
1896 ..	2·50	2·00	..	2·72
1897 ..	2·50	2·25	..	2·62
1898 ..	3·00	2·97	..	2·94
1899 ..	2·87	2·71	2·50	2·75
1900 ..	2·50	2·61	2·62	2·59
1901 ..	2·50	2·00	2·75	2·37
1902 ..	2·25	2·00	2·00	2·34
1903 ..	2·00	2·00	2·00	2·37
1904 ..	2·37	2·50	2·50	2·44
1905 ..	2·50	2·25	2·00	2·50
1906 ..	2·50	2·00	2·00	2·62
1907 ..	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·37
1908 ..	2·62	2·50	2·50	2·12
1909 ..	2·50	2·50	2·37	2·06
1910 ..	2·50	2·50	2·00	2·25
1911 ..	2·50	2·37	2·31	2·00
1912 ..	2·50	2·75	2·50	2·50
1913 ..	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·50
	Sago, per 1 lb.			
1891 ..	2·87	2·94	..	3·00
1892 ..	2·25	2·56	..	2·87
1893 ..	2·00	2·27	..	2·59
1894 ..	2·00	2·15	..	2·37
1895 ..	2·00	2·10	..	1·87
1896 ..	2·00	2·00	..	2·00
1897 ..	1·87	1·75	..	2·00
1898 ..	2·00	1·50	..	1·87
1899 ..	2·00	2·00	2·00	2·00
1900 ..	2·37	2·50	2·44	2·25
1901 ..	2·37	2·25	2·37	2·31
1902 ..	2·00	2·00	2·00	2·34
1903 ..	1·87	2·00	2·00	1·91
1904 ..	1·50	2·00	2·06	2·00
1905 ..	1·62	2·00	2·00	2·00
1906 ..	2·50	2·10	2·75	2·50
1907 ..	3·00	3·00	3·00	3·00
1908 ..	2·50	2·85	3·00	2·44
1909 ..	2·50	2·62	2·75	2·25
1910 ..	2·50	2·29	2·12	2·25
1911 ..	2·62	2·54	3·31	2·59
1912 ..	2·87	2·75	3·37	2·75
1913 ..	2·62	2·50	2·62	2·72
	Tapioca, per 1 lb.			
1891 ..	2·87	2·94	..	3·00
1892 ..	2·25	2·43	..	2·87
1893 ..	2·00	2·37	..	2·66
1894 ..	2·00	2·41	..	2·31
1895 ..	2·00	2·00	..	1·87
1896 ..	2·00	2·00	..	2·00
1897 ..	1·87	2·00	..	2·00
1898 ..	2·00	1·50	..	1·87
1899 ..	2·00	2·00	2·00	2·00
1900 ..	2·37	2·50	2·44	2·25
1901 ..	2·37	2·25	2·00	2·22
1902 ..	2·00	2·00	3·00	2·47
1903 ..	1·87	2·00	2·50	2·00
1904 ..	1·50	2·00	2·06	2·00
1905 ..	1·60	2·00	2·75	2·00
1906 ..	2·50	2·10	3·00	2·50
1907 ..	3·00	3·00	3·00	3·00
1908 ..	2·50	2·85	3·00	2·87
1909 ..	2·50	2·62	2·75	2·12
1910 ..	2·50	2·29	2·12	2·12
1911 ..	2·87	2·54	3·31	2·66
1912 ..	3·00	2·75	3·37	2·75
1913 ..	2·62	2·50	2·87	2·75

APPENDIX A.—RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	TEA, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	22·00	24·00	..	28·50
1892 ..	22·00	24·00	..	28·50
1893 ..	22·00	24·00	..	27·00
1894 ..	22·00	24·00	..	27·00
1895 ..	22·00	24·00	..	24·50
1896 ..	22·00	24·00	..	24·50
1897 ..	22·00	24·00	..	24·00
1898 ..	22·00	24·00	..	23·50
1899 ..	22·00	24·00	21·25	23·00
1900 ..	21·50	24·00	20·00	22·25
1901 ..	20·00	22·00	20·00	21·50
1902 ..	20·00	23·00	20·00	21·50
1903 ..	18·50	21·00	20·00	21·50
1904 ..	18·00	21·00	20·00	20·50
1905 ..	18·00	20·00	18·75	20·50
1906 ..	18·00	20·00	20·00	20·50
1907 ..	18·00	17·33	16·25	20·50
1908 ..	18·00	17·11	15·00	20·50
1909 ..	18·00	16·67	15·00	20·50
1910 ..	18·00	16·67	15·62	20·50
1911 ..	18·00	16·67	15·00	20·50
1912 ..	18·00	16·00	15·00	20·50
1913 ..	18·00	20·00	15·00	21·50
	COFFEE, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	20·00	20·00	..	21·00
1892 ..	20·00	20·00	..	21·00
1893 ..	20·00	20·00	..	21·00
1894 ..	20·00	20·00	..	21·00
1895 ..	20·00	20·00	..	21·00
1896 ..	20·00	20·00	..	21·00
1897 ..	20·00	20·00	..	21·00
1898 ..	20·00	20·00	..	21·00
1899 ..	20·00	20·00	20·00	21·00
1900 ..	20·00	20·00	17·75	21·00
1901 ..	20·00	20·00	18·00	21·00
1902 ..	18·00	19·00	18·00	21·00
1903 ..	18·00	19·00	18·00	21·00
1904 ..	18·00	19·00	18·00	21·00
1905 ..	18·00	19·00	17·75	21·00
1906 ..	18·00	19·00	18·00	21·00
1907 ..	18·00	19·33	18·00	21·00
1908 ..	18·00	19·33	18·00	21·00
1909 ..	18·00	19·33	18·00	21·00
1910 ..	18·00	19·33	17·50	21·00
1911 ..	18·00	19·33	17·50	21·00
1912 ..	18·00	20·00	19·00	21·00
1913 ..	18·00	20·00	20·00	21·50
	COCOA, PER ¼ LB. TIN.			
1891 ..	10·50	9·75	..	11·12
1892 ..	10·50	9·75	..	10·50
1893 ..	10·50	9·75	..	11·25
1894 ..	10·50	9·75	..	11·25
1895 ..	10·50	9·75	..	10·75
1896 ..	10·50	9·75	..	10·75
1897 ..	10·50	9·75	..	10·75
1898 ..	10·50	9·75	..	11·25
1899 ..	10·50	9·75	9·75	10·75
1900 ..	10·50	9·75	9·75	10·75
1901 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·75
1902 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·75
1903 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·75
1904 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·50
1905 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·50
1906 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·25
1907 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·37
1908 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·50
1909 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·37
1910 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·50
1911 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·50
1912 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	10·50
1913 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	11·00

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	SUGAR, PER 56 LB. BAG.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	151·50	159·75	..	168·00
1892 ..	146·25	156·75	..	167·25
1893 ..	145·50	153·87	..	162·50
1894 ..	141·75	149·83	..	158·25
1895 ..	127·50	126·00	..	146·75
1896 ..	129·00	132·00	..	139·00
1897 ..	124·50	135·00	..	139·00
1898 ..	124·50	129·75	..	139·00
1899 ..	124·50	129·67	125·50	139·00
1900 ..	132·00	139·96	148·37	139·50
1901 ..	130·87	135·00	147·00	151·75
1902 ..	124·12	132·00	126·00	139·00
1903 ..	125·25	129·75	126·00	138·50
1904 ..	125·62	131·25	136·50	136·00
1905 ..	138·75	145·50	138·25	148·37
1906 ..	129·00	138·00	135·00	135·75
1907 ..	117·75	116·50	126·00	123·00
1908 ..	98·25	109·00	112·50	100·50
1909 ..	101·75	105·42	111·00	102·00
1910 ..	109·25	114·00	115·87	112·50
1911 ..	108·75	111·50	120·75	112·25
1912 ..	120·75	118·87	128·25	124·50
1913 ..	129·00	113·25	123·75	126·37
	SALT, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	0·75	1·00	..	1·00
1892 ..	0·75	1·00	..	1·00
1893 ..	0·75	1·00	..	1·00
1894 ..	0·75	1·00	..	0·87
1895 ..	0·75	1·00	..	1·00
1896 ..	0·75	1·00	..	1·00
1897 ..	0·75	1·00	..	1·00
1898 ..	0·75	1·00	..	1·00
1899 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	1·00
1900 ..	0·75	1·00	0·62	1·00
1901 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	0·87
1902 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	0·87
1903 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	0·87
1904 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	0·87
1905 ..	0·75	1·00	0·56	0·87
1906 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	0·87
1907 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	0·87
1908 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	0·87
1909 ..	0·75	1·00	0·75	0·87
1910 ..	0·75	1·00	0·56	0·87
1911 ..	0·75	1·00	0·62	0·87
1912 ..	0·75	1·00	1·00	0·87
1913 ..	0·75	1·00	1·00	0·87
	PEPPER, PER ¼ LB.			
1891 ..	5·00	4·00	..	5·25
1892 ..	4·25	4·00	..	5·06
1893 ..	4·00	4·00	..	5·00
1894 ..	4·00	4·00	..	4·94
1895 ..	4·00	4·00	..	4·75
1896 ..	4·00	4·00	..	4·75
1897 ..	4·00	3·50	..	4·50
1898 ..	4·00	4·00	..	4·37
1899 ..	4·00	4·00	4·00	4·50
1900 ..	4·00	4·00	4·00	4·50
1901 ..	4·00	4·87	4·00	4·62
1902 ..	4·25	5·00	4·00	4·75
1903 ..	4·62	4·69	4·00	4·75
1904 ..	4·75	4·82	4·00	4·87
1905 ..	4·37	5·00	4·00	5·00
1906 ..	4·50	5·00	4·00	4·75
1907 ..	4·00	4·67	4·00	4·75
1908 ..	4·00	4·50	4·00	4·00
1909 ..	4·00	4·50	4·00	4·00
1910 ..	4·00	4·46	3·75	4·50
1911 ..	4·00	4·33	3·75	4·50
1912 ..	4·00	4·50	4·00	4·56
1913 ..	4·00	5·00	4·25	4·25

APPENDIX A.—RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	JAM, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	5·00	4·00	..	6·25
1892 ..	5·00	4·00	..	6·25
1893 ..	5·00	4·00	..	5·75
1894 ..	5·00	4·00	..	5·75
1895 ..	5·00	4·00	..	5·75
1896 ..	5·00	4·00	..	5·50
1897 ..	5·00	4·25	..	5·50
1898 ..	5·00	4·00	..	5·50
1899 ..	5·00	4·00	5·00	5·50
1900 ..	5·00	4·00	5·25	5·50
1901 ..	5·00	4·00	5·00	5·50
1902 ..	5·00	4·25	5·00	5·50
1903 ..	5·00	4·25	5·00	5·50
1904 ..	5·00	4·25	5·00	5·50
1905 ..	5·00	4·25	5·00	5·50
1906 ..	5·00	4·25	5·00	5·50
1907 ..	5·00	4·17	4·25	5·50
1908 ..	5·00	4·17	4·00	5·50
1909 ..	5·00	4·17	4·00	5·50
1910 ..	5·00	4·17	4·50	5·75
1911 ..	5·00	4·17	4·50	5·75
1912 ..	5·00	4·00	4·00	5·75
1913 ..	5·00	5·00	4·00	5·75
	HONEY, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	4·00	6·00	..	6·00
1892 ..	4·00	6·00	..	6·00
1893 ..	4·00	6·00	..	6·00
1894 ..	5·00	6·00	..	6·00
1895 ..	5·00	6·00	..	6·00
1896 ..	4·87	6·00	..	6·00
1897 ..	4·50	6·00	..	6·00
1898 ..	5·00	6·00	..	6·00
1899 ..	4·75	6·00	6·00	6·00
1900 ..	5·00	6·00	5·00	6·00
1901 ..	5·25	6·00	6·00	6·00
1902 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	6·00
1903 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	6·00
1904 ..	4·75	6·00	6·00	6·00
1905 ..	4·50	6·00	5·50	6·00
1906 ..	4·75	6·00	6·00	6·00
1907 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	6·00
1908 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	6·00
1909 ..	4·75	6·00	6·00	6·00
1910 ..	4·75	6·00	5·25	6·00
1911 ..	4·75	6·00	5·25	6·00
1912 ..	5·25	6·00	6·00	6·00
1913 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	6·00
	GOLDEN SYRUP, PER 2 LB. TIN.			
1891 ..	7·00	7·00	..	8·00
1892 ..	7·00	7·00	..	7·87
1893 ..	6·75	7·00	..	7·72
1894 ..	6·50	7·00	..	7·62
1895 ..	6·50	7·00	..	7·00
1896 ..	6·25	7·00	..	6·87
1897 ..	6·00	6·50	..	7·00
1898 ..	5·50	7·00	..	6·44
1899 ..	5·50	7·00	7·00	6·00
1900 ..	5·50	7·00	7·00	6·06
1901 ..	5·50	6·00	6·75	6·00
1902 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1903 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1904 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1905 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1906 ..	5·25	6·00	6·00	6·00
1907 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1908 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1909 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1910 ..	5·25	6·00	6·00	6·00
1911 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1912 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00
1913 ..	5·50	6·00	6·00	6·00

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	TREACLE, PER 2 LB. TIN.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	6·00	6·00	..	7·31
1892 ..	6·00	6·00	..	7·25
1893 ..	6·37	6·00	..	7·00
1894 ..	6·50	6·00	..	6·87
1895 ..	6·50	6·00	..	6·25
1896 ..	6·25	6·00	..	6·06
1897 ..	5·25	6·00	..	6·00
1898 ..	5·00	6·00	..	5·50
1899 ..	5·00	6·00	7·00	5·00
1900 ..	5·00	6·00	7·00	5·06
1901 ..	5·00	6·00	6·75	5·25
1902 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·12
1903 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·06
1904 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·00
1905 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·19
1906 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·00
1907 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·12
1908 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·00
1909 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·00
1910 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·00
1911 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·00
1912 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·06
1913 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·00
	RAISINS, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	8·37	8·94	..	9·50
1892 ..	6·50	7·11	..	7·72
1893 ..	6·00	6·11	..	7·00
1894 ..	6·00	5·63	..	5·91
1895 ..	5·87	5·50	..	5·81
1896 ..	6·00	6·00	..	5·44
1897 ..	6·87	7·00	..	7·09
1898 ..	7·00	8·00	..	7·06
1899 ..	7·00	8·00	7·06	7·94
1900 ..	7·50	7·19	6·81	7·79
1901 ..	6·25	5·50	7·50	7·56
1902 ..	6·25	7·00	6·75	7·28
1903 ..	6·50	6·87	7·00	5·97
1904 ..	6·75	6·00	6·00	5·69
1905 ..	6·00	6·50	5·50	6·03
1906 ..	6·25	7·00	5·12	5·81
1907 ..	6·50	7·00	6·50	6·12
1908 ..	6·12	6·83	6·25	5·62
1909 ..	5·25	5·17	5·44	4·41
1910 ..	4·25	5·00	5·00	4·50
1911 ..	5·00	5·17	6·00	6·25
1912 ..	5·25	4·75	7·00	6·47
1913 ..	5·00	4·25	6·75	5·81
	CURRANTS, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	6·00	5·99	..	5·97
1892 ..	5·62	5·87	..	5·81
1893 ..	5·50	5·61	..	5·72
1894 ..	5·00	4·66	..	5·12
1895 ..	5·00	4·00	..	4·53
1896 ..	5·00	4·50	..	4·59
1897 ..	5·25	4·75	..	4·91
1898 ..	5·50	5·50	..	6·19
1899 ..	5·37	5·00	5·00	6·56
1900 ..	6·00	5·87	5·25	6·37
1901 ..	6·87	4·25	6·50	7·28
1902 ..	5·50	5·00	5·00	5·34
1903 ..	5·00	3·82	4·50	4·19
1904 ..	5·00	4·25	4·25	4·19
1905 ..	5·00	4·25	4·25	4·50
1906 ..	5·00	4·50	4·50	4·25
1907 ..	4·75	4·50	5·50	4·50
1908 ..	4·00	4·33	4·50	4·00
1909 ..	4·00	4·33	4·25	3·25
1910 ..	4·00	4·33	4·25	3·37
1911 ..	5·00	4·50	4·62	4·25
1912 ..	5·00	4·50	5·00	4·00
1913 ..	4·75	4·00	4·00	4·06

APPENDIX A.—RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
APRICOTS, TINNED, PER 2½ LB. TIN.				
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	13·00	10·00	..	13·50
1892 ..	11·75	10·00	..	13·00
1893 ..	10·00	10·00	..	13·12
1894 ..	10·75	10·00	..	11·75
1895 ..	9·50	10·00	..	10·75
1896 ..	8·87	10·00	..	10·50
1897 ..	10·00	10·00	..	10·69
1898 ..	10·00	10·00	..	10·00
1899 ..	9·50	10·00	11·50	10·75
1900 ..	8·75	10·00	12·00	11·25
1901 ..	9·50	10·00	12·00	11·00
1902 ..	9·00	10·00	12·00	10·75
1903 ..	9·25	9·25	12·00	10·00
1904 ..	9·75	9·50	11·00	10·00
1905 ..	8·50	10·25	12·00	11·00
1906 ..	8·50	10·50	12·00	10·12
1907 ..	9·75	11·33	12·00	11·00
1908 ..	11·00	11·33	12·00	10·87
1909 ..	9·25	11·33	12·00	10·87
1910 ..	10·00	11·33	12·00	10·37
1911 ..	10·00	11·33	11·50	10·50
1912 ..	10·00	11·00	12·00	10·25
1913 ..	10·00	10·00	12·00	10·62
PEARS, TINNED, PER 2½ LB. TIN.				
1891 ..	13·50	10·00	..	13·50
1892 ..	12·00	10·00	..	13·31
1893 ..	11·00	10·00	..	13·50
1894 ..	11·00	10·00	..	12·19
1895 ..	10·75	10·00	..	11·44
1896 ..	10·00	10·00	..	11·37
1897 ..	10·00	10·00	..	11·94
1898 ..	10·00	10·00	..	10·50
1899 ..	9·25	10·00	11·50	11·12
1900 ..	9·50	10·00	12·00	12·00
1901 ..	11·75	10·00	12·00	11·00
1902 ..	10·00	10·00	12·00	11·12
1903 ..	10·00	9·25	12·00	10·62
1904 ..	10·00	9·50	12·00	11·00
1905 ..	10·00	10·25	12·00	11·37
1906 ..	10·50	10·50	12·00	11·87
1907 ..	10·50	11·33	12·00	11·62
1908 ..	12·25	11·33	12·00	11·87
1909 ..	12·00	11·33	12·00	11·87
1910 ..	11·00	11·33	12·00	11·62
1911 ..	10·75	11·33	12·00	11·50
1912 ..	11·00	11·00	14·00	11·50
1913 ..	12·00	10·00	14·00	11·62
PEACHES, TINNED, PER 2½ LB. TIN.				
1891 ..	11·50	10·00	..	13·25
1892 ..	10·50	10·00	..	12·94
1893 ..	9·00	10·00	..	13·00
1894 ..	9·25	10·00	..	11·75
1895 ..	9·62	10·00	..	10·75
1896 ..	9·25	10·00	..	10·44
1897 ..	10·25	10·00	..	10·75
1898 ..	10·00	10·00	..	10·00
1899 ..	9·75	10·00	11·50	10·00
1900 ..	8·75	10·00	12·00	11·06
1901 ..	11·00	10·00	12·00	11·00
1902 ..	11·50	10·00	12·00	10·75
1903 ..	8·87	9.25	12·00	10·37
1904 ..	9·37	9·50	12·00	10·00
1905 ..	10·00	10·25	12·00	10·75
1906 ..	10·00	10·50	12·00	11·00
1907 ..	10·00	11·33	12·00	11·00
1908 ..	11·50	11·33	12·00	10·75
1909 ..	11·75	11·33	12·00	11·00
1910 ..	10·00	11·33	12·00	10·50
1911 ..	10·00	11·33	12·00	10·62
1912 ..	10·50	11·00	12·00	10·50
1913 ..	10·00	10·00	12·00	10·62

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
PRUNES, DRIED, PER 1 LB.				
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	8·50	9·37	..	10·25
1892 ..	8·75	9·41	..	9·87
1893 ..	8·25	9·53	..	10·81
1894 ..	8·50	9·75	..	10·75
1895 ..	8·00	8·66	..	9·50
1896 ..	8·00	8·13	..	8·25
1897 ..	8·00	8·50	..	9·00
1898 ..	8·00	8·53	..	9·06
1899 ..	8·00	8·00	8·00	7·87
1900 ..	7·00	6·00	9·00	9·37
1901 ..	7·00	6·00	8·00	9·75
1902 ..	7·50	7·00	8·00	8·87
1903 ..	7·25	6·12	8·00	8·12
1904 ..	6·75	6·25	8·00	8·00
1905 ..	6·50	5·50	8·00	8·00
1906 ..	6·75	6·66	7·00	8·25
1907 ..	6·25	6·00	6·00	7·12
1908 ..	4·50	5·42	4·50	5·00
1909 ..	4·00	4·83	4·50	5·62
1910 ..	3·75	4·75	5·50	4·75
1911 ..	5·25	5·58	5·12	5·25
1912 ..	5·50	6·00	5·00	6·75
1913 ..	5·00	5·50	6·00	5·75
APRICOTS, DRIED, PER 1 LB.				
1891 ..	10·00	11·00	..	12·00
1892 ..	10·12	10·81	..	11·50
1893 ..	11·25	11·37	..	11·50
1894 ..	10·00	10·53	..	11·06
1895 ..	9·37	9·62	..	10·25
1896 ..	8·75	9·00	..	10·25
1897 ..	9·00	9·50	..	10·25
1898 ..	9·00	10·00	..	10·00
1899 ..	9·75	11·00	11·00	9·75
1900 ..	9·75	10·54	12·00	9·87
1901 ..	8·25	9·00	9·42	10·75
1902 ..	9·00	9·00	9·17	9·00
1903 ..	9·00	8·37	10·00	9·00
1904 ..	9·00	9·50	9·50	9·00
1905 ..	9·00	10·00	9·00	9·50
1906 ..	10·50	9·67	11·25	11·25
1907 ..	13·00	10·00	14·00	13·87
1908 ..	13·25	11·25	12·12	12·37
1909 ..	8·00	9·08	8·50	9·00
1910 ..	9·00	9·08	8·50	9·12
1911 ..	10·00	9·50	9·87	9·75
1912 ..	10·75	10·00	12·75	11·12
1913 ..	10·75	9·50	11·00	10·00
POTATOES, PER 14 LB.				
1891 ..	8·12	7·59	..	6·06
1892 ..	6·00	6·00	..	6·00
1893 ..	9·00	9·37	..	9·75
1894 ..	6·00	6·94	..	7·87
1895 ..	6·25	11·50	..	6·06
1896 ..	8·00	8·28	..	8·56
1897 ..	8·50	8.00	..	8·25
1898 ..	13·50	13·75	..	13·62
1899 ..	6·12	5·81	5·81	5·50
1900 ..	6·62	7·25	7·25	7·87
1901 ..	8·25	9·00	9·00	9·75
1902 ..	10·37	13·50	11·16	9·62
1903 ..	8·25	7·62	8·21	8·75
1904 ..	6·25	10·12	7·39	5·87
1905 ..	15·37	16·50	16·94	16·12
1906 ..	18·37	21·75	17·81	19·31
1907 ..	15·75	12·08	12·65	10·12
1908 ..	14·25	13·50	12·73	10·44
1909 ..	10·12	11·29	10·24	9·31
1910 ..	14·25	15·00	14·37	14·87
1911 ..	10·75	12·25	10·59	8·75
1912 ..	13·87	14·12	13·62	12·87
1913 ..	11·62	11·50	10·96	9·62

Appendix A.—Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	Onions, per 1 lb.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	2·00	1·63	..	1·25
1892 ..	1·87	1·62	..	1·37
1893 ..	1·62	1·39	..	1·16
1894 ..	2·00	1·98	..	1·87
1895 ..	1·37	1·31	..	1·09
1896 ..	1·75	1·00	..	1·45
1897 ..	1·62	1·61	..	1·59
1898 ..	2·12	1·90	..	1·67
1899 ..	1·12	1·26	1·26	1·19
1900 ..	1·44	1·40	1·40	1·17
1901 ..	1·87	1·94	1·94	1·75
1902 ..	1·75	1·50	1·45	1·11
1903 ..	1·62	1·12	1·24	1·00
1904 ..	1·75	1·25	1·32	0·97
1905 ..	2·00	2·42	2·27	2·50
1906 ..	1·37	1·42	1·48	1·47
1907 ..	1·62	1·82	1·50	1·06
1908 ..	1·87	2·00	1·48	1·56
1909 ..	1·62	1·67	1·50	1·12
1910 ..	1·37	1·43	1·33	1·00
1911 ..	1·25	1·42	1·20	0·91
1912 ..	2·37	2·31	2·14	1·75
1913 ..	1·75	1·75	1·67	1·53
	Salmon, Tinned, per 1 lb. Tin.			
1891 ..	10·00	10·00	..	10·12
1892 ..	10·00	10·00	..	10·06
1893 ..	10·25	10·00	..	10·37
1894 ..	10·50	10·00	..	10·00
1895 ..	10·00	10·75	..	10·00
1896 ..	10·00	11·00	..	10·00
1897 ..	10·00	10·50	..	9·62
1898 ..	8·00	11·00	..	9·25
1899 ..	9·25	11·00	10·75	9·31
1900 ..	9·50	11·00	11·00	9·75
1901 ..	10·75	10·00	10·00	10·31
1902 ..	10·75	11·00	10·00	10·25
1903 ..	11·25	11·00	12·00	10·50
1904 ..	12·00	11·12	12·00	9·87
1905 ..	11·00	11·50	12·00	10·25
1906 ..	11·00	11·50	11·50	10·00
1907 ..	10·00	9·67	10·00	10·75
1908 ..	11·00	10·17	10·00	11·00
1909 ..	11·00	10·16	12·00	11·00
1910 ..	10·50	10·16	12·00	10·75
1911 ..	11·00	10·17	12·00	11·75
1912 ..	12·25	10·60	14·00	12·00
1913 ..	14·00	13·00	14·50	12·75
	Herrings, Tinned, per 1 lb. Tin.			
1891 ..	7·00	7·00	..	10·25
1892 ..	6·62	7·00	..	10·54
1893 ..	6·75	7·00	..	10·03
1894 ..	6·50	7·00	..	10·00
1895 ..	6·50	7·00	..	9·44
1896 ..	6·50	7·00	..	9·25
1897 ..	6·50	7·00	..	9·16
1898 ..	6·50	7·00	..	9·16
1899 ..	6·37	7·00	7·00	8·44
1900 ..	6·25	7·00	8·75	8·87
1901 ..	6·75	7·00	6·50	8·87
1902 ..	7·00	7·00	5·00	8·72
1903 ..	7·00	6·71	5·00	8·75
1904 ..	6·37	6·50	5·00	8·72
1905 ..	6·50	6·50	7·00	8·59
1906 ..	6·37	6·50	5·25	7·69
1907 ..	6·25	6·67	5·75	7·72
1908 ..	6·75	6·33	7·12	8·37
1909 ..	7·00	6·33	6·87	7·62
1910 ..	6·62	6·33	7·25	7·62
1911 ..	6·50	6·33	7·25	7·53
1912 ..	6·50	7·00	6·50	7·31
1913 ..	6·50	7·00	6·87	7·53

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	Starch, per 1 lb.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	5·50	5·50	..	5·75
1892 ..	5·50	5·50	..	5·75
1893 ..	5·50	5·50	..	5·75
1894 ..	5·50	5·50	..	5·75
1895 ..	5·50	5·50	..	5·75
1896 ..	5·50	5·50	..	5·75
1897 ..	5·50	5·75	..	5·75
1898 ..	5·50	5·50	..	5·75
1899 ..	5·37	5·50	5·75	5·75
1900 ..	5·00	5·50	5·70	5·75
1901 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·75
1902 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·75
1903 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·75
1904 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·75
1905 ..	5·00	6·00	5·25	5·75
1906 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	5·75
1907 ..	5·00	5·83	6·00	5·75
1908 ..	5·00	5·83	6·00	5·75
1909 ..	5·00	5·83	6·00	5·78
1910 ..	5·00	5·83	4·25	5·87
1911 ..	5·00	5·83	5·25	5·87
1912 ..	5·37	5·75	6·00	5·87
1913 ..	5·00	6·00	6·00	6·00
	Blue, per 1 lb.			
1891 ..	9·50	9·00	..	10·25
1892 ..	9·50	9·00	..	10·25
1893 ..	9·50	9·00	..	10·25
1894 ..	9·50	9·00	..	9·75
1895 ..	9·50	9·00	..	9·75
1896 ..	9·50	9·00	..	9·75
1897 ..	9·50	9·00	..	9·75
1898 ..	9·50	9·00	..	9·75
1899 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1900 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1901 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1902 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1903 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1904 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1905 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1906 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1907 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1908 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1909 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1910 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·75
1911 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·25
1912 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·25
1913 ..	9·50	9·00	9·00	9·25
	Soap, per Bar, 36 to 1 cwt.			
1891 ..	8·00	10·00	..	8·44
1892 ..	8·00	10·00	..	7·38
1893 ..	8·00	10·00	..	7·53
1894 ..	8·00	10·00	..	7·58
1895 ..	8·00	10·00	..	7·78
1896 ..	8·00	10·00	..	7·78
1897 ..	8·00	9·50	..	7·78
1898 ..	8·00	10·00	..	7·39
1899 ..	8·00	10·00	9·00	7·19
1900 ..	8·00	10·00	9·00	8·11
1901 ..	8·00	10·00	9·00	7·69
1902 ..	8·75	10·00	9·00	8·33
1903 ..	9·00	10·00	9·00	8·33
1904 ..	9·00	10·00	9·00	7·78
1905 ..	9·00	10·00	9·00	7·78
1906 ..	9·00	10·00	9·00	8·86
1907 ..	10·00	9·33	10·00	9·10
1908 ..	10·00	9·33	10·00	8·89
1909 ..	10·00	9·33	10·00	8·89
1910 ..	10·00	9·33	10·00	8·89
1911 ..	10·00	9·66	10·00	8·89
1912 ..	10·00	9·00	10·00	9·78
1913 ..	10·00	10·00	10·00	9·78

APPENDIX A.—RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	TOBACCO, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	64·00	66·87	..	63·75
1892 ..	64·00	66·87	..	63·75
1893 ..	64·00	66·87	..	63·75
1894 ..	64·00	61·37	..	62·25
1895 ..	64·00	60·00	..	61·50
1896 ..	64·00	61·50	..	62·25
1897 ..	64·00	63·00	..	61·50
1898 ..	64·00	65·75	..	61·50
1899 ..	60·00	62·75	63·00	61·50
1900 ..	60·00	62·00	61·50	61·50
1901 ..	63·00	56·00	63·00	61·50
1902 ..	67·50	60·00	67·50	63·75
1903 ..	67·50	67·50	67·50	63·75
1904 ..	67·50	67·50	67·50	66·00
1905 ..	67·50	67·50	61·50	66·75
1906 ..	72·00	72·00	64·00	69·00
1907 ..	72·00	70·50	64·00	69·00
1908 ..	72·00	70·50	64·00	69·00
1909 ..	72·00	70·50	64·00	69·00
1910 ..	70·00	71·00	63·50	69·00
1911 ..	64·00	71·00	63·50	69·00
1912 ..	68·00	70·50	64·00	69·00
1913 ..	69·00	72·00	66·00	71·25
	MILK, PER QUART.			
1891 ..	3·00	3·08	3·50	3·50
1892 ..	3·00	3·08	3·50	3·50
1893 ..	3·00	3·08	3·50	3·50
1894 ..	3·00	3·08	3·50	3·50
1895 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1896 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1897 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1898 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1899 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1900 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1901 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1902 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1903 ..	3·00	3·11	3·50	3·50
1904 ..	3·25	3·11	3·50	3·50
1905 ..	3·25	3·33	3·50	3·50
1906 ..	3·25	3·33	3·50	3·50
1907 ..	3·37	3·68	4·00	3·75
1908 ..	3·75	3·83	3·50	3·75
1909 ..	3·87	3·71	3·50	3·75
1910 ..	3·87	3·83	3·50	3·75
1911 ..	3·75	3·98	3·50	3·75
1912 ..	3·87	4·00	3·50	3·75
1913 ..	4·00	4·36	3·50	3·75
	BUTTER, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	9·00	10·62	10·62	12·50
1892 ..	10·25	11·85	11·84	13·44
1893 ..	9·75	11·41	10·31	12·87
1894 ..	9·75	11·03	11·03	12·44
1895 ..	9·75	12·00	11·37	12·37
1896 ..	10·00	12·00	11·37	12·12
1897 ..	10·75	11·67	11·91	12·44
1898 ..	10·75	11·81	11·91	13·00
1899 ..	11·75	12·14	13·00	11·69
1900 ..	10·75	12·00	13·25	12·50
1901 ..	10·75	13·50	12·50	13·37
1902 ..	13·25	12·00	13·25	13·94
1903 ..	12·00	11·50	13·00	12·75
1904 ..	12·25	11·50	12·00	12·00
1905 ..	12·00	12·00	13·00	12·75
1906 ..	12·25	13·37	13·25	13·50
1907 ..	12·50	13·00	13·00	13·19
1908 ..	14·50	15·00	15·50	14·87
1909 ..	13·25	12·92	12·75	12·87
1910 ..	13·00	13·42	13·75	13·87
1911 ..	14 25	14·50	14·75	14·75
1912 ..	13·50	15·00	15·25	14·75
1913 ..	14·00	15·00	15·00	14·75

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	CHEESE, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	6·00	8·00	6·81	6·44
1892 ..	6·25	8·00	6·92	6·50
1893 ..	6·25	8·00	7·10	7·06
1894 ..	6·00	8·00	6·67	6·00
1895 ..	6·00	8·00	6·67	6·00
1896 ..	6·00	8·00	6·73	6·19
1897 ..	6·00	7·00	6·35	6·06
1898 ..	6·00	8·00	6·71	6·12
1899 ..	6·00	8·00	6·25	6·00
1900 ..	6·25	8·00	6·50	6·94
1901 ..	7·25	8·00	6·62	6·75
1902 ..	6·50	8·00	7·00	6·19
1903 ..	7·25	8·00	7·00	7·94
1904 ..	7·75	8·00	7·00	8·00
1905 ..	7·00	8·00	7·00	7·37
1906 ..	7·75	8·00	7·75	7·75
1907 ..	7·75	8·00	8·00	9·00
1908 ..	8·00	8·00	8·00	9·31
1909 ..	8·00	8·00	8·00	9·00
1910 ..	8·00	8·08	9·00	9·00
1911 ..	8·00	8·25	8·50	9·00
1912 ..	9·00	9·00	9·00	9·00
1913 ..	8·00	9·00	9·00	8·62
	EGGS, PER 1 DOZEN.			
1891 ..	12·75	13·60	13·60	13·66
1892 ..	12·50	13·22	13·22	14·19
1893 ..	12·50	13·56	13·06	14·62
1894 ..	12·00	13·20	13·20	14·41
1895 ..	12·25	20·00	15·97	15·28
1896 ..	13·50	13·85	13·85	14·19
1897 ..	12·75	14·20	14·20	15·75
1898 ..	13·75	14·83	14·83	15·28
1899 ..	12·00	13·22	12·00	15·41
1900 ..	13·50	13·12	12·75	13·66
1901 ..	13·75	23·00	13·75	16·84
1902 ..	12·75	18·25	13·75	15·37
1903 ..	14·50	16·50	15·50	17·56
1904 ..	15·25	19·50	13·00	15·62
1905 ..	14·25	15·00	13·50	14·91
1906 ..	15·25	21·00	15·50	16·87
1907 ..	17·00	18·00	18·50	15·97
1908 ..	16·75	22·33	16·50	17·69
1909 ..	16·25	20·08	17·25	16·91
1910 ..	16·00	20·62	17·00	17·53
1911 ..	16·00	16·47	16·25	16·84
1912 ..	16·25	18·50	15·75	17·94
1913 ..	18·25	19·50	17·00	16·62
	BACON, SHOULDER, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	6·25	5·00	6·23	7·44
1892 ..	6·50	5·00	6·31	7·44
1893 ..	7·00	5·00	6·50	7·50
1894 ..	6·50	5·00	6·33	7·50
1895 ..	6·00	5·00	6·02	7·06
1896 ..	6·00	5·00	6·02	7·06
1897 ..	6·50	5·25	6·67	7·50
1898 ..	7·00	5·00	6·65	7·94
1899 ..	7·00	5·00	4·50	8·00
1900 ..	7·00	5·00	4·00	8·00
1901 ..	6·00	7·00	4·25	8·00
1902 ..	7·50	9·00	4·50	8·25
1903 ..	8·25	8·75	4·75	9·87
1904 ..	8·50	8·00	5·00	9·00
1905 ..	7·00	6·69	4·50	9·00
1906 ..	7·00	6·50	4·75	9·25
1907 ..	7·50	7·50	5·87	10·31
1908 ..	8·00	7·50	7·00	10·37
1909 ..	8·00	6·92	5·50	9·56
1910 ..	8·00	7·16	4·62	9·50
1911 ..	7·75	6·75	5·62	9·81
1912 ..	8·25	7·00	7·00	11·50
1913 ..	8·00	6·44	7·00	11·75

APPENDIX A.—RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	BACON, MIDDLE CUT, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	8·50	8·75	8·75	8·44
1892 ..	8·75	8·87	8·87	8·44
1893 ..	9·50	9·25	9·87	8·50
1894 ..	8·50	8·75	9·50	8·50
1895 ..	8·00	10·00	9·33	8·06
1896 ..	8·00	8·50	8·87	8·06
1897 ..	8·25	7·00	8·50	8·25
1898 ..	8·00	8·50	9·12	8·44
1899 ..	8·00	8·33	8·00	8·50
1900 ..	8·00	8·17	7·50	8·50
1901 ..	8·00	9·00	8·00	8·50
1902 ..	9·25	11·00	8·50	8·75
1903 ..	10·50	10·87	8·50	10·37
1904 ..	10·00	10·00	9·00	9·50
1905 ..	9·00	9·46	7·62	9·50
1906 ..	9·00	9·25	8·25	9·75
1907 ..	9·50	10·42	9·25	10·81
1908 ..	10·00	11·08	10·25	10·87
1909 ..	10·00	10·66	9·00	10·06
1910 ..	10·00	10·08	7·62	10·00
1911 ..	10·00	10·50	8·12	10·31
1912 ..	10·75	12·87	10·50	12·00
1913 ..	11·00	14·50	10·87	12·25
	BACON, HAM, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	9·00	9·50	9·50	10·00
1892 ..	8·75	9·12	9·12	9·50
1893 ..	10·75	10·37	10·37	10·00
1894 ..	10·00	9·75	9·75	9·50
1895 ..	9·00	10·00	9·50	9·50
1896 .	8·75	9·12	9·12	9·50
1897 ..	9·50	7·50	9·12	9·50
1898 ..	9·25	9·37	9·37	10·00
1899 ..	9·50	9·50	9·00	10·00
1900 ..	8·75	9·58	8·00	10·00
1901 ..	10·00	10·00	8·50	10·00
1902 ..	10·75	10·00	9·00	10·25
1903 ..	12·00	11·00	9·00	12·00
1904 ..	12·00	9·00	9·50	11·00
1905 ..	11·00	9·16	8·12	11·00
1906 ..	9·75	9.00	8·75	11·12
1907 ..	9·75	10·58	9·62	12·00
1908 ..	10·25	11·00	10·00	12·12
1909 ..	11·00	10·87	9·25	11·87
1910 ..	10·75	10·37	8·62	11·25
1911 ..	11·25	11·25	9·12	11·87
1912 ..	12·25	12·75	11·00	13·00
1913 ..	11·75	12·50	12·25	12·75
	BEEF, SIRLOIN, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	5·00	5·42	6·12	5·00
1892 ..	4·75	5·29	6·06	5·00
1893 ..	5·75	5·42	5·87	5·00
1894 ..	7·00	5·92	5·87	5·00
1895 ..	5·50	5·42	5·94	5·00
1896 ..	5·50	5·42	5·94	5·00
1897 ..	5·00	5·25	5·87	5·00
1898 ..	6·50	5·79	5·94	5·00
1899 ..	6·00	5·54	5·81	5·00
1900 ..	6·00	5·75	5·87	5·50
1901 ..	6·00	6·00	6·00	5·50
1902 ..	6·00	6·00	6·50	5·50
1903 ..	6·00	6·37	6·75	5·50
1904 ..	5·50	6·50	6·50	5·50
1905 ..	6·00	7·00	6·50	5·50
1906 ..	6·00	7·00	6·44	5·50
1907 ..	6·00	7·25	6·50	5·50
1908 ..	6·00	7·00	6·62	5·00
1909 ..	5·50	7·25	6·25	5·00
1910 ..	6·00	7·25	6·19	5·00
1911 ..	5·75	7·25	6·56	5·50
1912 ..	6·17	7·25	6·87	6·00
1913 ..	6·83	7·50	6·62	6·00

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	BEEF, BRISKET, 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	2·00	2·58	3·12	2·00
1892 ..	2·00	3·42	2·87	2·00
1893 ..	2·50	2·92	2·87	2·00
1894 ..	3·50	2·92	2·87	2·00
1895 ..	2·50	2·62	2·94	2·00
1896 ..	2·50	2·92	2·87	2·00
1897 ..	2·00	2·46	2·94	2·00
1898 ..	3·00	2·79	2·94	2·00
1899 ..	2·75	2·92	2·87	2·00
1900 ..	2·50	2·75	2·87	2·50
1901 ..	3·00	3·00	2·87	2·50
1902 ..	3·00	3·00	3·06	2·50
1903 ..	3·00	3·25	3·12	2·50
1904 ..	2·25	3·50	2·87	3·00
1905 ..	3·00	3·50	2·87	3·00
1906 ..	3·00	3·50	2·87	3·00
1907 ..	2·67	3·50	2·87	3·00
1908 ..	2·50	3·50	2·81	3·00
1909 ..	3·00	3·25	2·81	3·00
1910 ..	3·00	3·50	2·87	3·00
1911 ..	2·50	3·25	3·19	3·50
1912 ..	2·83	3·50	3·19	4·00
1913 ..	3·00	3·50	3·37	4·00
	BEEF, PRIME RIBS, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	4·00	4·42	5·12	4·00
1892 ..	4·25	4·46	5·06	4·00
1893 ..	4·75	4·58	5·00	4·00
1894 ..	6·00	5·04	5·06	4·00
1895 ..	4·50	4·62	5·19	4·00
1896 ..	4·00	4·37	5·06	4·00
1897 ..	4·00	4·33	5·00	4·00
1898 ..	5·00	4·67	5·00	4·00
1899 ..	5·00	4·67	5·00	4·00
1900 ..	5·00	4·87	5·06	4·50
1901 ..	5·00	5·00	5·00	4·50
1902 ..	5·00	5·00	5·50	4·50
1903 ..	5·00	5·00	5·75	4·50
1904 ..	4·50	5·00	5·50	4·50
1905 ..	5·00	5·00	5·50	4·50
1906 ..	5·00	5·00	5·50	4·50
1907 ..	5·00	5·25	5·50	4·50
1908 ..	5·00	5·00	5·62	4·00
1909 ..	4·50	5·25	5·25	4·00
1910 ..	5·00	5·25	5·12	4·00
1911 ..	4·75	5·25	5·87	5·00
1912 ..	5·17	5·25	5·87	5·00
1913 ..	5·50	6·00	5·62	5·00
	BEEF, RUMP STEAK, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	8·00	7·17	7·25	6·00
1892 ..	7·50	6·83	7·00	6·00
1893 ..	8·50	7·17	7·00	6·00
1894 ..	10·00	7·67	7·00	6·00
1895 ..	9·00	7·50	7·25	6·00
1896 ..	9·00	7·50	7·25	6·00
1897 ..	8·00	7·17	7·25	6·00
1898 ..	10·00	7·83	7·25	6·00
1899 ..	9·50	7·58	7·12	6·00
1900 ..	9·00	7·67	7·00	7·00
1901 ..	9·00	7·00	7·87	7·00
1902 ..	9·00	7·75	7·62	7·00
1903 ..	8·00	8·00	7·87	7·00
1904 ..	8·50	8·00	7·87	7·00
1905 ..	9·00	8·00	8·00	7·00
1906 ..	9·00	8·00	8·00	7·00
1907 ..	9·33	8·00	8·00	7·00
1908 ..	9·00	8·00	8·00	7·00
1909 ..	9·00	8·00	8·00	7·00
1910 ..	8·00	8·00	8·00	7·00
1911 ..	9·50	8·00	8·00	8·00
1912 ..	9·00	8·00	8·00	8·00
1913 ..	9·00	9·00	8·00	8·00

APPENDIX A.—RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	BEEF, TOP SIDE, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	4·00	4·42	5·62	4·00
1892 ..	4·50	4·54	5·56	4·00
1893 ..	4·25	4·46	5·56	4·00
1894 ..	5·50	4·92	5·62	4·00
1895 ..	4·50	4·58	5·62	4·00
1896 ..	5·00	4·75	5·62	4·00
1897 ..	4·00	4·42	5·62	4·00
1898 ..	5·00	4·67	5·50	4·00
1899 ..	4·75	4·58	5·50	4·00
1900 ..	4·50	4·67	5·50	5·00
1901 ..	4·50	4·00	5·50	5·00
1902 ..	4·50	4·00	5·56	5·00
1903 ..	4·50	4·00	5·50	5·00
1904 ..	4·25	4·75	5·50	5·00
1905 ..	5·00	5·00	5·50	5·00
1906 ..	5·00	4·50	5·50	5·00
1907 ..	4·50	5·00	5·62	5·00
1908 ..	4·50	5·00	5·50	5·00
1909 ..	6·00	4·75	5·62	5·00
1910 ..	4·50	5·00	5·62	5·00
1911 ..	5·00	5·00	5·37	5·00
1912 ..	4·67	5·00	5·68	5·00
1913 ..	5·00	5·00	6·00	5·00
	BEEF, STEWING-STEAK, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	5·00	4·67	4·50	4·00
1892 ..	5·50	4·83	4·50	4·00
1893 ..	6·00	5·08	4·62	4·00
1894 ..	7·00	5·33	4·50	4·00
1895 ..	6·00	5·00	4·50	4·00
1896 ..	6·00	5·00	4·50	4·00
1897 ..	5·00	4·67	4·50	4·00
1898 ..	6·00	5·00	4·50	4·00
1899 ..	6·00	5·00	4·50	4·00
1900 ..	5·00	4·67	4·50	4·00
1901 ..	5·00	4·00	5·00	4·00
1902 ..	5·00	4·00	5·00	4·00
1903 ..	5·00	4·00	5·00	4·00
1904 ..	5·00	4·00	5·00	4·00
1905 ..	6·00	4·00	5·00	4·00
1906 ..	6·00	4·00	5·00	4·00
1907 ..	5·67	5·00	5·00	4·00
1908 ..	6·00	4·00	5·00	4·00
1909 ..	7·00	5·00	4·50	4·00
1910 ..	6·00	5·00	4·50	4·00
1911 ..	6·00	5·00	4·50	4·00
1912 ..	5·67	5·00	4·75	4·00
1913 ..	6·00	6·00	5·00	4·00
	BEEF, CORNED, ROUND, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	5·00	6·08	5·12	4·00
1892 ..	5·50	4·87	5·06	4·00
1893 ..	5·75	5·00	5·12	4·00
1894 ..	6·00	5·00	5·50	4·00
1895 ..	6·00	5·12	5·69	4·00
1896 ..	5·00	5·08	5·12	4·00
1897 ..	5·00	4·67	5·00	4·00
1898 ..	6·00	5·17	5·25	4·00
1899 ..	6·00	5·04	5·06	4·00
1900 ..	6·00	5·17	5·00	4·50
1901 ..	5·00	4·50	5·50	4·50
1902 ..	5·00	4·50	5·56	5·00
1903 ..	5·00	4·75	5·56	5·00
1904 ..	5·50	5·00	5·50	5·00
1905 ..	6·00	5·00	5·50	5·00
1906 ..	6·00	5·25	5·50	5·00
1907 ..	6·00	5·56	5·62	5·00
1908 ..	6·00	5·62	5·81	5·00
1909 ..	6·00	5·25	5·37	5·00
1910 ..	6·00	5·25	6·00	5·00
1911 ..	5·50	5·25	5·94	5·00
1912 ..	5·67	5·25	5·94	5·00
1913 ..	6·00	6·00	6·00	5·00

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	BEEF, CORNED, ROLL, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	4·50	4·17	5·00	3·00
1892 ..	4·50	4·17	5·00	3·00
1893 ..	4·50	4·17	5·00	3·00
1894 ..	5·00	4·33	5·50	3·00
1895 ..	5·00	4·33	5·50	3·00
1896 ..	4·00	4·00	5·00	3·00
1897 ..	4·00	4·00	5·00	3·00
1898 ..	5·00	4·33	5·00	3·00
1899 ..	4·75	4·25	5·00	3·00
1900 ..	4·00	4·17	5·00	3·50
1901 ..	4·00	3·50	5·50	3·50
1902 ..	4·00	3·50	5·50	3·50
1903 ..	4·50	3·75	5·50	3·50
1904 ..	4·25	4·00	5·50	3·50
1905 ..	4·50	4·50	5·50	3·50
1906 ..	4·50	4·50	5·50	3·50
1907 ..	4·87	4·25	5·50	3·50
1908 ..	4·50	4·37	5·56	3·50
1909 ..	5·00	4·25	5·12	3·50
1910 ..	4·50	4·37	5·50	3·50
1911 ..	4·50	4·50	5·50	4·00
1912 ..	4·67	4·50	5·50	4·00
1913 ..	5·00	5·00	5·00	4·00
	BEEF, CORNED, BRISKET, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	2 00	2·83	4·50	2·00
1892 ..	2·00	2·83	4·50	2·00
1893 ..	2·50	3·42	4·56	2·00
1894 ..	3·50	3·33	4·50	2·00
1895 ..	2·50	3·33	4·50	2·00
1896 ..	2·50	3·04	4·56	2·00
1897 ..	2·00	2·83	4·50	2·00
1898 ..	3·00	3·17	4·50	2·00
1899 ..	2·75	3·08	4·50	2·00
1900 ..	2·50	3·17	4·50	2·50
1901 ..	2·50	3·00	4·75	2·50
1902 ..	2·50	3·00	4·75	2·50
1903 ..	2·50	3·37	4·81	2·50
1904 ..	2·25	3·50	4·75	3·00
1905 ..	2·50	3·75	4·75	3·00
1906 ..	2·50	3·50	4·75	3·00
1907 ..	2·67	3·25	4·87	3·00
1908 ..	2·50	3·87	5·00	3·00
1909 ..	3·00	3·25	4·75	3·00
1910 ..	2·50	3·25	5·00	3·00
1911 ..	2·50	3·25	5·00	3·50
1912 ..	2·83	3·25	5·12	3·50
1913 ..	3·00	3·50	5·00	3·50
	MUTTON, LEG, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	5·00	4·12	4·44	3·00
1892 ..	5·75	4·29	4·31	3·00
1893 ..	5·50	4·42	4·37	3·50
1894 ..	6·00	4·58	4·37	3·50
1895 ..	5·00	4·25	4·12	3·50
1896 ..	5·00	4·25	4·06	3·50
1897 ..	4·50	4·04	4·06	3·50
1898 ..	5·50	4·54	4·25	4·00
1899 ..	5·25	4·58	4·19	4·00
1900 ..	5·00	4·79	4·12	4·00
1901 ..	5·00	4·75	5·00	4·00
1902 ..	5·00	5·00	5·00	4·00
1903 ..	4·50	5·00	5·37	4·00
1904 ..	5·25	4·62	5·37	4·00
1905 ..	6·00	5·00	5·44	4·00
1906 ..	6·00	5·00	5·50	4·00
1907 ..	5·83	5·25	5·25	4·00
1908 ..	5·00	5·00	5·25	4·00
1909 ..	5·00	5·25	5·00	4·00
1910 ..	5·00	5·25	4·87	4·50
1911 ..	5·50	5·25	5·00	5·00
1912 ..	5·17	5·25	5·50	5·00
1913 ..	5·67	6·00	5·25	5·00

APPENDIX A.—RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	MUTTON, SHOULDER, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	4·00	3·33	3·50	2·50
1892 ..	4·75	3·50	3·37	2 50
1893 ..	4·50	3·62	3·44	3·00
1894 ..	5·00	3·79	3·44	3·00
1895 ..	4·50	3·58	3·37	3·00
1896 ..	4·50	3·58	3·37	3·00
1897 ..	4·00	3·50	3·50	3·00
1898 ..	4·50	3·79	3·44	3·50
1899 ..	4·25	4·46	3·44	3·50
1900 ..	4·00	3·33	3·50	3·50
1901 ..	4·00	3·75	4·00	3·50
1902 ..	4·00	3·50	4·00	3·50
1903 ..	4·00	3·87	4·50	3·50
1904 ..	4·25	3·62	4·50	3·50
1905 ..	5·00	4·00	4·50	3·50
1906 ..	5·00	4·00	4·50	3·50
1907 ..	4·83	4·25	4·25	3·50
1908 ..	4·50	4·00	4·62	3·50
1909 ..	4·50	4·25	4·62	3·50
1910 ..	4·50	4·25	4·50	3·50
1911 ..	4·50	4·25	4·50	3·50
1912 ..	4·25	4·25	4·50	3·50
1913 ..	4·67	5·00	4·37	3·50
	MUTTON, LOIN, PER 1 LB			
1891 ..	5·50	4·25	4·12	3·00
1892 ..	6·00	4·42	4·12	3·00
1893 ..	5·75	4·25	4·12	3·50
1894 ..	6·00	4·58	4·12	3·50
1895 ..	6·00	4·58	4·12	3·50
1896 ..	6·00	4·67	4·25	3·50
1897 ..	5·00	4·29	4·19	3·50
1898 ..	6·00	4·79	4·19	4·00
1899 ..	5·25	3·38	4·06	4·00
1900 ..	5·00	3·67	4·06	4·00
1901 ..	4·00	4·50	4·50	4·00
1902 ..	4·00	4·50	4·81	4·00
1903 ..	4·00	4·25	4·75	4·00
1904 ..	5·25	4·50	4·75	4·00
1905 ..	5·50	4·87	4·94	4·00
1906 ..	6·00	5·00	5·00	4·00
1907 ..	6·00	5·25	4·81	4·00
1908 ..	6·00	5·00	4·87	4·00
1909 ..	6·00	5·25	4·50	4·00
1910 ..	6·00	5·25	4·50	4·00
1911 ..	5·50	5·25	4·50	4·00
1912 ..	5·00	5·25	4·75	4·50
1913 ..	5·33	6·00	4·87	4·50
	MUTTON, NECK, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	4·50	3·33	2·50	2·50
1892 ..	4·75	3·42	2·50	2·50
1893 ..	4·75	3·33	2·50	3·00
1894 ..	5·00	3·67	2·50	3·00
1895 ..	4·50	4·17	2·50	3·00
1896 ..	4·50	3·50	2·50	3·00
1897 ..	4·50	3·50	2·50	3·00
1898 ..	4·50	3·50	2·50	3·00
1899 ..	3·75	3·25	2·50	3·00
1900 ..	4·00	3·33	2·50	3·00
1901 ..	3·50	2·75	3·00	3·00
1902 ..	3·50	3·00	3·00	3·00
1903 ..	4·00	3·25	3·00	3·00
1904 ..	3·50	3·50	3·00	3·00
1905 ..	5·00	3·50	3·00	3·00
1906 ..	5·00	3·50	3·00	3·00
1907 ..	4·83	3·44	3·00	3·00
1908 ..	4·50	3·25	3·00	3·00
1909 ..	4·50	3·50	3·00	3·00
1910 ..	4·50	3·37	2·87	3·00
1911 ..	4·00	3·50	3·00	3·00
1912 ..	4·00	3·50	3·00	3·00
1913 ..	4·17	4·00	3·00	3·00

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	MUTTON, CHOPS, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	6·00	4·71	4·56	4·00
1892 ..	7·00	5·04	4·06	4·00
1893 ..	6·50	4·87	4·56	4·00
1894 ..	7·00	5·08	4·12	4·00
1895 ..	7·00	5·04	4·06	4·00
1896 ..	7·00	5·17	4·25	4·00
1897 ..	6·00	4·83	4·25	4·00
1898 ..	7·00	5·17	4·25	4·00
1899 ..	6·00	4·83	4·25	4·00
1900 ..	6·00	4·87	4·31	4·00
1901 ..	6·00	6·00	5·00	4·00
1902 ..	6·00	6·00	5·50	4·00
1903 ..	6·00	6·00	5·50	4·00
1904 ..	6·00	6·00	5·50	4·00
1905 ..	6·00	6·00	5·87	4·00
1906 ..	6·00	6·00	6·00	4·00
1907 ..	6·33	7·00	5·75	4·00
1908 ..	7·00	6·00	6·00	4·00
1909 ..	7·00	7·00	5·25	4·00
1910 ..	7·00	7·00	5·12	5·00
1911 ..	6·50	7·00	5·00	5·00
1912 ..	6·00	6·00	5·62	5·00
1913 ..	6·33	6·00	5·75	5·00
	PORK, LEG, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	7·00	6·67	6·50	6·00
1892 ..	7·00	6·42	6·12	6·00
1893 ..	6·50	6·33	6·25	6·00
1894 ..	7·00	6·33	6·00	6·00
1895 ..	6·00	6·17	6·25	6·00
1896 ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	6·00
1897 ..	6·00	6·17	6·25	6·00
1898 ..	7·00	6·17	6·12	6·00
1899 ..	7·00	6·50	6·25	6·00
1900 ..	7·00	6·92	6·37	7·00
1901 ..	6·00	6·00	6·50	7·00
1902 ..	6·00	6·00	6·25	7·00
1903 ..	7·00	6·00	6·87	7·00
1904 ..	6·00	6·00	6·94	7·00
1905 ..	6·00	6·50	7·50	7·00
1906 ..	6·00	7·00	8·00	7·00
1907 ..	6·67	6·50	7·00	7·00
1908 ..	7·00	7·00	7·87	7·00
1909 ..	6·00	6·50	8·00	8·00
1910 ..	6·00	6·50	7·62	8·00
1911 ..	6·50	6·50	7·31	8·00
1912 ..	6·67	7·37	7·75	8·00
1913 ..	7·67	8·00	8·00	8·00
	PORK, LOIN, PER 1 LB.			
1891 ..	8·00	7·00	6·50	6·00
1892 ..	7·50	6·58	6·12	6·00
1893 ..	7·50	6·50	6·25	6·00
1894 ..	7·00	6·33	6·00	6·00
1895 ..	7·00	6·50	6·25	6·00
1896 ..	7·50	6·83	6·50	6·00
1897 ..	7·00	6·67	6·50	6·00
1898 ..	8·00	6·42	6·44	6·00
1899 ..	8·00	7·00	6·50	6·00
1900 ..	7·00	7·00	6·50	7·00
1901 ..	7·00	6·00	6·75	7·00
1902 ..	7·00	6·00	6·69	7·00
1903 ..	8·00	6·50	7·19	7·00
1904 ..	7 00	7·00	7·12	7·00
1905 ..	6·00	7·00	7·50	7·00
1906 ..	6·00	7·00	8·00	7·00
1907 ..	7·33	6·75	7·00	7·00
1908 ..	8·00	7·50	7·87	7·00
1909 ..	6 00	6·50	8·00	8·00
1910 ..	7·00	7·00	8·00	8·00
1911 ..	7 00	7·37	7·56	8·00
1912 ..	7·67	8·00	8·00	8·00
1913 ..	8·67	9·00	8·00	8·00

Appendix A.—Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	Pork, Belly, per 1 lb.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	8·00	7·33	7·50	6·00
1892 ..	7·50	6·92	7·12	6·00
1893 ..	7·50	7·00	7·25	6·00
1894 ..	7·00	6·67	7·00	6·00
1895 ..	7·00	6·83	7·25	6·00
1896 ..	7·50	6·83	7·00	6·00
1897 ..	7·00	6·67	7·00	6·00
1898 ..	8·00	7·00	7·00	6·00
1899 ..	8·00	7·17	7·25	6·00
1900 ..	7·00	7·08	7·12	7·00
1901 ..	7·00	6·00	7·50	7·00
1902 ..	7·00	6·00	7·50	7·00
1903 ..	8·00	7·00	7·87	7·00
1904 ..	7·00	7·00	7·94	7·00
1905 ..	6·00	7·00	8·00	7·00
1906 ..	6·00	7·00	8·00	7·00
1907 ..	7·33	6·75	7·50	7·00
1908 ..	8·00	7·50	8·37	7·00
1909 ..	6·00	7·00	8·50	8·00
1910 ..	7·00	7·50	8·50	8·00
1911 ..	7·00	7·50	8·00	8·00
1912 ..	7·67	8·00	8·50	8·00
1913 ..	8·67	9·00	8·00	8·00
	Pork, Chops, per 1 lb.			
1891 ..	9·00	7·67	7·00	6·00
1892 ..	8·50	7·25	6·62	6·00
1893 ..	8·50	7·17	6·50	6·00
1894 ..	8·00	7·00	6·50	6·00
1895 ..	7·00	6·83	6·75	6·00
1896 ..	9·00	7·42	6·62	6·00
1897 ..	7·00	7·00	7·00	6·00
1898 ..	9·00	7·42	6·62	6·00
1899 ..	9·00	7·67	7·00	6·00
1900 ..	7·00	7·33	7·00	7·00
1901 ..	7·00	6·00	7·00	7·00
1902 ..	7·00	7·00	7·00	7·00
1903 ..	8·00	8·00	7·50	7·00
1904 ..	8·00	8·00	8·00	7·00
1905 ..	6·00	8·00	8·50	7·00
1906 ..	6·00	8·00	8·00	7·00
1907 ..	8·00	8·25	7·50	7·00
1908 ..	8·00	8·00	8·50	7·00
1909 ..	7·00	8·25	8·37	8·00
1910 ..	7·00	8·50	8·50	8·00
1911 ..	8·00	8·50	8·06	8·00
1912 ..	8·00	8·50	8·50	8·00
1913 ..	9·67	10·00	8·00	8·00
	Tripe, per 1 lb.			
1891 ..	6·00	6·33	6·00	6·00
1892 ..	6·00	6·25	6·00	6·00
1893 ..	6·00	5·67	5·50	6·00
1894 ..	5·00	5·33	5·50	6·00
1895 ..	4·00	5·00	5·50	6·00
1896 ..	6·00	5·67	5·50	6·00
1897 ..	5·00	5·33	5·50	6·00
1898 ..	6·00	5·67	5·50	6·00
1899 ..	6·00	5·67	5·50	6·00
1900 ..	6·00	5·67	5·50	6·00
1901 ..	6·00	4·00	6·00	6·00
1902 ..	6·00	4·00	6·00	6·00
1903 ..	6·00	4·50	6·00	6·00
1904 ..	6·00	5·00	6·00	6·00
1905 ..	6·00	5·00	6·00	6·00
1906 ..	6·00	5·00	6·00	6·00
1907 ..	6·00	5·00	6·00	6·00
1908 ..	6·00	5·00	6·00	6·00
1909 ..	6·00	5·00	6·00	6·00
1910 ..	6·00	5·00	6·00	6·00
1911 ..	5·50	5·50	6·00	6·00
1912 ..	6·00	5·50	6·00	6·00
1913 ..	6·00	6·00	6·00	6·50

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	Sausages, Beef, per 1 lb.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1892 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1893 ..	3·50	3·50	4·00	3·00
1894 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1895 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1896 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1897 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1898 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1899 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1900 ..	4·00	3·67	4·00	3·00
1901 ..	4·00	4·00	4·00	3·00
1902 ..	4·00	4·00	4·00	3·00
1903 ..	4·00	4·00	4·00	3·00
1904 ..	3·50	4·00	4·00	3·00
1905 ..	4·00	4·00	4·00	3·00
1906 ..	4·00	4·00	4·00	3·00
1907 ..	4·00	4·75	4·00	3·00
1908 ..	4·00	5·00	4·00	3·00
1909 ..	4·00	4·87	4·00	3·00
1910 ..	4·00	4·87	4·00	3·00
1911 ..	4·00	5·00	4·00	3·00
1912 ..	4·67	5·00	4·00	3·75
1913 ..	5·00	5·00	4·00	4·00
	Sausages, Pork, per 1 lb.			
1891 ..	6·00	6·00	6·50	6·00
1892 ..	6·00	6·00	6·37	6·00
1893 ..	6·00	6·33	6·50	6·00
1894 ..	6·00	6·33	6·50	6·00
1895 ..	6·00	6·50	6·75	6·00
1896 ..	7·00	6·67	6·50	6·00
1897 ..	6·00	6·33	6·50	6·00
1898 ..	6·00	6·33	6·50	6·00
1899 ..	6·00	6·67	7·00	6·00
1900 ..	5·00	6·67	7·00	6·00
1901 ..	6·00	6·00	6·87	6·00
1902 ..	6·00	6·00	6·87	6·00
1903 ..	6·00	6·50	6·87	6·00
1904 ..	6·00	7·00	7·00	6·00
1905 ..	6·00	7·00	6·50	6·00
1906 ..	6·00	7·00	7·00	6·00
1907 ..	6·00	7·50	7·00	6·00
1908 ..	6·00	7·00	7·00	6·00
1909 ..	6·00	7·50	7·00	6·00
1910 ..	6·00	7·50	6·62	6·00
1911 ..	6·00	7·50	7·00	6·00
1912 ..	6·00	7·50	7·00	6·00
1913 ..	6·00	8·00	8·00	6·00
	House-rent (1), per Three Rooms and Under			
1891 ..	30·00	72·00	66·00	66·00
1892 ..	36·00	72·00	66·00	66·00
1893 ..	54·00	84·00	72·00	66·00
1894 ..	54·00	84·00	72·00	66·00
1895 ..	54·00	84·00	72·00	69·00
1896 ..	60·00	84·00	72·00	72·00
1897 ..	60·00	96·00	72·00	72·00
1898 ..	60·00	96·00	72·00	75·00
1899 ..	60·00	96·00	72·00	75·00
1900 ..	60·00	105·00	87·00	78·00
1901 ..	60·00	112·00	93·00	78·00
1902 ..	60·00	112·00	96·00	81·00
1903 ..	60·00	120·00	94·50	81·00
1904 ..	60·00	124·00	96·00	84·00
1905 ..	60·00	131·00	99·00	84·00
1906 ..	60·00	131·00	108·00	84·00
1907 ..	60·00	126·00	103·50	84·00
1908 ..	60·00	126·00	99·00	84·00
1909 ..	60·00	126·00	97·50	84·00
1910 ..	78·00	126·00	93·00	87·00
1911 ..	90·00	124·00	96·00	87·00
1912 ..	90·00	124·00	99·00	90·00
1913 ..	90·00	120·00	102·00	90·00

Appendix A.—Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
House-rent (2), per Four Rooms.				
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	48·00	138·00	99·00	96·00
1892 ..	48·00	138·00	102·00	96·00
1893 ..	66·00	138·00	102·00	96·00
1894 ..	66·00	138·00	102·00	96·00
1895 ..	69·00	138·00	102·00	102·00
1896 ..	78·00	138·00	102·00	102·00
1897 ..	96·00	138·00	108·00	102·00
1898 ..	96·00	138·00	108·00	105·00
1899 ..	102·00	138·00	108·00	105·00
1900 ..	102·00	162·00	133·50	108·00
1901 ..	120·00	157·00	135·00	108·00
1902 ..	126·00	164·00	141·00	111·00
1903 ..	126·00	167·00	138·00	114·00
1904 ..	126·00	176·00	136·50	117·00
1905 ..	130·50	179·00	145·50	117·00
1906 ..	135·00	184·00	160·50	117·00
1907 ..	135·00	179·00	151·50	117·00
1908 ..	138·00	180·00	151·50	120·00
1909 ..	144·00	180·00	151·50	120·00
1910 ..	150·00	175·00	144·00	120·00
1911 ..	150·00	173·00	148·50	120·00
1912 ..	156·00	175·00	147·00	120·00
1913 ..	156·00	184·00	151·50	120·00
House-rent (3), per Five Rooms.				
1891 ..	60·00	162·00	141·00	150·00
1892 ..	66·00	162·00	144·00	150·00
1893 ..	102·00	162·00	144·00	150·00
1894 ..	108·00	162·00	150·00	150·00
1895 ..	123·00	162·00	150·00	153·00
1896 ..	132·00	174·00	150·00	153·00
1897 ..	136·00	174·00	150·00	153·00
1898 ..	132·00	180·00	156·00	150·00
1899 ..	138·00	180·00	162·00	150·00
1900 ..	138·00	184·50	181·50	156·00
1901 ..	162·00	195·00	183·00	156·00
1902 ..	163·50	200·00	183·00	159·00
1903 ..	165·00	206·00	180·00	159·00
1904 ..	166·50	211·00	183·00	162·00
1905 ..	174·00	216·00	186·00	162·00
1906 ..	174·00	218·00	196·50	162·00
1907 ..	174·00	218·00	189·00	162·00
1908 ..	174·00	218·00	180·00	168·00
1909 ..	177·00	218·00	181·50	168·00
1910 ..	177·00	222·00	181·50	168·00
1911 ..	177·00	218·00	177·00	168·00
1912 ..	189·00	220·00	184·50	174·00
1913 ..	180·00	232·00	187·50	174·00
House-rent (4), per Six Rooms.				
1891 ..	78·00	198·00	192·00	204·00
1892 ..	96·00	198·00	192·00	204·00
1893 ..	132·00	198·00	192·00	204·00
1894 ..	144·00	198·00	198·00	204·00
1895 ..	150·00	198·00	198·00	210·00
1896 ..	156·00	198·00	198·00	210·00
1897 ..	160·00	198·00	204·00	210·00
1898 ..	162·00	210·00	204·00	210·00
1899 ..	165·00	210·00	204·00	213·00
1900 ..	165·00	219·00	213·00	219·00
1901 ..	171·00	239·00	213·00	222·00
1902 ..	174·00	243·00	216·00	225·00
1903 ..	174·00	251·00	214·50	228·00
1904 ..	180·00	259·00	214·50	240·00
1905 ..	186·00	266·00	222·00	243·00
1906 ..	186·00	274·00	235·50	243·00
1907 ..	186·00	278·00	225·00	244·50
1908 ..	196·50	280·00	223·50	246·00
1909 ..	201·00	273·00	222·00	246·00
1910 ..	201·00	274·00	220·50	246·00
1911 ..	201·00	270·00	216·00	246·00
1912 ..	219·00	271·00	208·50	246·00
1913 ..	210·00	291·00	213·00	249·00

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
House-rent (5), per Seven Rooms.				
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	132·00	222·00	228·00	258·00
1892 ..	138·00	222·00	228·00	258·00
1893 ..	150·00	222·00	228·00	258·00
1894 ..	168·00	222·00	234·00	258·00
1895 ..	180·00	222·00	240·00	264·00
1896 ..	192·00	222·00	240·00	264·00
1897 ..	228·00	234·00	240·00	270·00
1898 ..	246·00	240·00	252·00	270·00
1899 ..	255·00	252·00	252·00	270·00
1900 ..	255·00	288·00	261·00	270·00
1901 ..	258·00	292·00	261·00	270·00
1902 ..	258·00	295·00	270·00	270·00
1903 ..	249·00	307·00	267·00	270·00
1904 ..	240·00	312·00	267·00	276·00
1905 ..	240·00	332·00	286·50	276·00
1906 ..	255·00	333·00	300·00	276·00
1907 ..	255·00	343·00	294·00	276·00
1908 ..	255·00	346·00	282·00	282·00
1909 ..	255·00	331·00	264·00	282·00
1910 ..	258·00	321·00	264·00	288·00
1911 ..	270·00	325·00	262·50	291·00
1912 ..	285·00	321·00	255·00	294·00
1913 ..	300·00	347·00	255·00	300·00
House-rent (6), per Eight Rooms.				
1891 ..	180·00	252·00	288·00	270·00
1892 ..	180·00	252·00	291·00	270·00
1893 ..	180·00	252·00	300·00	270·00
1894 ..	192·00	252·00	300·00	270·00
1895 ..	210·00	258·00	312·00	276·00
1896 ..	216·00	258·00	312·00	276·00
1897 ..	232·00	258·00	312·00	282·00
1898 ..	249·00	258·00	324·00	288·00
1899 ..	240·00	282·00	324·00	288·00
1900 ..	240·00	309·00	313·50	288·00
1901 ..	258·00	340·00	312·00	288·00
1902 ..	258·00	344·00	321·00	288·00
1903 ..	258·00	340·00	318·00	288·00
1904 ..	265·50	350·00	318·00	288·00
1905 ..	288·00	378·00	331·50	285·00
1906 ..	288·00	376·00	343·50	285·00
1907 ..	288·00	380·00	333·00	286·50
1908 ..	288·00	376·00	316·50	288·00
1909 ..	288·00	368·00	212·00	288·00
1910 ..	300·00	370·00	312·00	295·50
1911 ..	300·00	358·00	304·50	298·50
1912 ..	306·00	359·00	301·50	300·00
1913 ..	330·00	403·00	288·50	309·00
House-rent (7), per Nine Rooms and over.				
1891 ..	216·00	342·00	330·00	294·00
1892 ..	216·00	348·00	348·00	294·00
1893 ..	240·00	360·00	360·00	294·00
1894 ..	240·00	360·00	360·00	294·00
1895 ..	270·00	370·00	360·00	306·00
1896 ..	270·00	375·00	378·00	306·00
1897 ..	290·00	385·00	390·00	318·00
1898 ..	300·00	390·00	390·00	330·00
1899 ..	300·00	390·00	390·00	330·00
1900 ..	300·00	390·00	375·00	333·00
1901 ..	312·00	405·00	375·00	336·00
1902 ..	309·00	412·50	367·50	336·00
1903 ..	315·00	424·50	360·00	336·00
1904 ..	315·00	429·00	360·00	336·00
1905 ..	315·00	444·00	381·00	346·50
1906 ..	315·00	444·00	405·00	366·00
1907 ..	315·00	456·00	381·00	360·00
1908 ..	319·50	454·00	375·00	369·00
1909 ..	324·00	452·00	360·00	372·00
1910 ..	324·00	444·00	360·00	369·00
1911 ..	331·50	436·00	355·50	375·00
1912 ..	420·00	444·00	355·50	378·00
1913 ..	480·00	482·00	360·00	390·00

Appendix A.—Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	Coal, per ¼ Ton.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	69·00	108·00	96·00	78·00
1892 ..	69·00	108·00	96·00	72·00
1893 ..	69·00	108·00	96·00	72·00
1894 ..	72·00	108·00	102·00	72·00
1895 ..	72·00	108·00	102·00	72·00
1896 ..	75·00	108·00	102·00	72·00
1897 ..	75·00	108·00	102·00	72·00
1898 ..	75·00	108·00	102·00	72·00
1899 ..	75·00	108·00	108·00	72·00
1900 ..	78·00	108·00	108·00	73·50
1901 ..	78·00	108·00	108·00	76·50
1902 ..	81·00	117·00	108·00	78·00
1903 ..	81·00	117·00	108·00	78·75
1904 ..	81·00	117·00	108·00	83·25
1905 ..	81·00	117·00	108·00	84·00
1906 ..	84·00	117·00	108·00	85·50
1907 ..	87·00	117·00	108·00	87·00
1908 ..	93·00	117·00	108·00	87·00
1909 ..	96·00	114·75	114·00	87·00
1910 ..	96·00	108·00	114·00	87·00
1911 ..	96·00	108·00	114·00	87·00
1912 ..	99·00	113·25	120·00	90·75
1913 ..	100·50	114·00	124·50	96·00
	Coke, per 1 Cwt.			
1891 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1892 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1893 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	21·00
1894 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	18·00
1895 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	18·00
1896 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	18·00
1897 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	18·00
1898 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	18·00
1899 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	18·00
1900 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	21·00
1901 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	21·75
1902 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1903 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1904 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1905 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1906 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1907 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1908 ..	18·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1909 ..	21·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1910 ..	22·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1911 ..	22·00	15·00	21·00	24·00
1912 ..	22·00	15·75	21·00	23·25
1913 ..	22·00	18·00	21·00	21·00
	Firewood, per ¼ Cord.			
1891 ..	65·25	120·00	144·00	144·00
1892 ..	65·25	120·00	144·00	144·00
1893 ..	63·00	120·00	144·00	144·00
1894 ..	63·00	120·00	144·00	144·00
1895 ..	63·00	120·00	144·00	144·00
1896 ..	63·00	120·00	144·00	126·00
1897 ..	63·00	120·00	144·00	108·00
1898 ..	65·25	120·00	144·00	108·00
1899 ..	65·25	120·00	150·00	108·00
1900 ..	65·25	120·00	150·00	126·00
1901 ..	69·75	120·00	150·00	126·00
1902 ..	69·75	132·00	120·00	108·00
1903 ..	69·75	132·00	120·00	108·00
1904 ..	69·75	132·00	120·00	112·50
1905 ..	69·75	132·00	120·00	126·00
1906 ..	69·75	132·00	120·00	117·00
1907 ..	72·00	141·00	120·00	112·50
1908 ..	72·00	144·00	120·00	144·00
1909 ..	72·00	144·75	120·00	144·00
1910 ..	72·00	147·00	120·00	144·00
1911 ..	72·00	147·00	120·00	144·00
1912 ..	72·00	153·00	120·00	148·50
1913 ..	72·00	156·00	126·00	162·00

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	Kerosene, per 4-gallon Tin.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	80·25	82·87	83·88	85·50
1892 ..	66·00	70·50	70·50	75·75
1893 ..	65·25	66·84	66·84	68·44
1894 ..	68·25	69·25	69·00	70·50
1895 ..	73·50	72·00	73·09	73·87
1896 ..	71·25	66·00	69·25	71·25
1897 ..	69·00	72·00	71·75	74·25
1898 ..	70·12	71·56	71·56	71·62
1899 ..	66·00	61·94	73·50	67·87
1900 ..	64·25	68·31	70·50	70·69
1901 ..	48·00	51·00	53·75	53·53
1902 ..	42·00	43·21	42·00	45·62
1903 ..	44·25	46·50	48·00	46·31
1904 ..	47·62	45·00	48·00	51·62
1905 ..	42·75	43·50	43·50	46·25
1906 ..	45·00	48·00	45·75	47·41
1907 ..	45·50	51·00	50·25	48·25
1908 ..	49·00	52·17	55·50	51·00
1909 ..	48·25	53·25	54·00	54·00
1910 ..	49·50	52·50	49·50	54·00
1911 ..	51·00	51·00	48·37	51·75
1912 ..	51·75	51·37	52·50	52·50
1913 ..	51·75	54·00	53·25	51·81
	Gas, Lighting, per 1,000 Cubic Feet.			
1891 ..	80·00	90·00	90·00	90·00
1892 ..	80·00	85·00	90·00	90·00
1893 ..	80·00	85·00	90·00	90·00
1894 ..	70·50	82·50	90·00	90·00
1895 ..	63·00	75·00	90·00	90·00
1896 ..	60·00	75·00	90·00	90·00
1897 ..	60·00	75·00	90·00	90·00
1898 ..	60·00	75·00	80·00	82·50
1899 ..	60·00	75·00	80·00	75·00
1900 ..	60·00	71·67	75·00	75·00
1901 ..	60·00	70·00	75·00	75·00
1902 ..	60·00	70·00	75·00	75·00
1903 ..	60·00	70·00	75·00	75·00
1904 ..	60·00	70·00	75·00	75·00
1905 ..	60·00	68·75	69·00	75·00
1906 ..	57·75	65·00	63·00	75·00
1907 ..	57·00	65·00	63·00	70·00
1908 ..	54·75	65·00	63·00	70·00
1909 ..	54·00	65·00	67·50	60·00
1910 ..	51·75	65·00	69·00	60·00
1911 ..	51·00	65·00	69·00	60·00
1912 ..	51·00	65·00	69·00	60·00
1913 ..	51·00	65·00	69·00	60·00
	Electricity, Lighting, per 1 Unit.			
1891 ..	..	..	..	..
1892 ..	..	..	..	..
1893 ..	..	11·00	..	..
1894 ..	..	11·00	..	..
1895 ..	..	11·00	..	..
1896 ..	..	10·00	..	..
1897 ..	..	10·00	..	..
1898 ..	..	10·00	..	..
1899 ..	..	10·00	..	..
1900 ..	..	9·00	..	..
1901 ..	..	9·00	..	..
1902 ..	..	9·00	..	.
1903 ..	..	9·00	10·00	..
1904 ..	..	8·00	10·00	..
1905 ..	..	8·00	10·00	.
1906 ..	..	8·00	10·00	..
1907 ..	5·50	7·50	10·00	5·00
1908 ..	5·50	7·00	8·00	5·00
1909 ..	5·50	7·00	6·00	5·00
1910 ..	5·50	7·00	6·00	5·00
1911 ..	5·50	7·00	6·00	5·00
1912 ..	5·50	7·00	6·00	5·00
1913 ..	5·50	7·00	6·00	5·00

APPENDIX A.—RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Year.	Auckland.	Wellington.	Christchurch.	Dunedin.
	CANDLES, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1891 ..	6·00	7·00	6·50	6·50
1892 ..	6·00	7·00	6·46	6·37
1893 ..	6·00	7·00	6·46	6·37
1894 ..	6·00	7·00	7·50	6·37
1895 ..	6·00	7·00	6·60	6·31
1896 ..	6·00	7·00	6·36	6·12
1897 ..	6·00	7·00	6·17	5·50
1898 ..	6·00	7·00	6·12	5·41
1899 ..	6·00	7·00	7·50	5·12
1900 ..	6·00	7·00	7·37	5·69
1901 ..	6·00	7·25	6·50	5·25
1902 ..	6·00	7·00	6·50	5·25
	CANDLES, PER 1 LB.—*continued.*			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
1903 ..	6·00	6·81	6·50	5·22
1904 ..	6·00	6·75	6·50	5·37
1905 ..	6·00	6·75	6·50	5·37
1906 ..	6·00	6·75	7·00	5·37
1907 ..	6·00	7·17	6·75	5·50
1908 ..	6·00	7·33	7·00	5·50
1909 ..	6·00	7·29	7·00	5·50
1910 ..	6·00	7·25	6·75	5·50
1911 ..	6·00	7·33	6·69	5·50
1912 ..	6·00	7·25	6·75	5·50
1913 ..	6·00	7·00	6·75	5·87

APPENDIX B.

QUARTERLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES IN 1914.

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
	BREAD, PER 2 LB. LOAF.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	4	4	4	4·50
Wellington ..	3·50	3·50	4	4·50
Christchurch ..	4	4	4	4
Dunedin ..	3·50	3·50	4	4·50
Whangarei ..	4	4	4·50	4
Hamilton ..	4	4	4	4·50
Rotorua ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	4
Waihi ..	4	4	4	4·50
Gisborne ..	4	4	4·50	4·50
Napier ..	4	4	4	4·50
Dannevirke ..	4	4	4	4
New Plymouth	4	4	4	4·50
Wanganui ..	3·50	3·50	3·50	4
Taihape ..	4	4	4	5
Palmerston N.	4	4	3	4
Masterton ..	3·50	3·50	3·50	4·50
Blenheim ..	3	3·50	4·50	4·50
Nelson ..	4	4	4	4·50
Greymouth ..	4	4	4	4·25
Ashburton ..	3	3	3·75	4·25
Timaru ..	3·50	3·50	4	4
Oamaru ..	3	3	4	4
Alexandra ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	4·50
Gore ..	3·50	3·50	3·50	4
Invercargill ..	3·50	3·50	3·75	4·25
	FLOUR, PER 25 LB. BAG.			
Auckland ..	40	40	45	50·08
Wellington ..	38	42	43	53
Christchurch ..	35	39	43·25	48
Dunedin ..	36	39	47·50	51·75
Whangarei ..	39·75	39·75	45·75	51
Hamilton ..	45	45	45·75	53
Rotorua ..	42	42	48·75	57
Waihi ..	40·50	42	46·50	51·50
Gisborne ..	39·50	40·25	48	52
Napier ..	40·50	41·50	44	53·25
Dannevirke ..	42	42	47·75	51·50
New Plymouth	39	42	48	52·50
Wanganui ..	37	39	46	54
Taihape ..	45	45	51	66
Palmerston N.	49·25	49·25	49·25	58
Masterton ..	45	45	48·50	52
Blenheim ..	45	48	55·50	55·50
Nelson ..	39	42	48·50	57
Greymouth ..	41	43·25	45	51·75
Ashburton ..	37	37	43·75	49
Timaru ..	37	37	44	50
Oamaru ..	36	39	48	48
Alexandra ..	39	39	46·50	58
Gore ..	42·75	45·75	52	57·50
Invercargill ..	42	45	48·25	54·50

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
	OATMEAL, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	2·20	2·33	2·20	2·34
Wellington ..	2·10	2	2·14	2·25
Christchurch ..	2·25	2·25	2·25	2·25
Dunedin ..	1·75	1·75	2·25	2·25
Whangarei ..	2·25	2·25	2	2·75
Hamilton ..	2·25	2·25	2·50	2·25
Rotorua ..	1·75	1·75	2	2·50
Waihi ..	2·25	2·25	2·50	2·25
Gisborne ..	2·50	2·50	2	2·25
Napier ..	2·25	2	2·25	2·25
Dannevirke ..	2	2	2·50	2·75
New Plymouth	2	2·25	2·25	2·50
Wanganui ..	2	2	2	2·50
Taihape ..	3	3	3	3
Palmerston N.	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75
Masterton ..	2	2	2·25	2·25
Blenheim ..	3	3	3	3
Nelson ..	2	2	2·25	2·25
Greymouth ..	2	2	2	2·25
Ashburton ..	2·25	2·25	2·25	2
Timaru ..	1·75	1·75	1·75	2·25
Oamaru ..	1·75	1·75	2·50	2·75
Alexandra ..	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75
Gore ..	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·50
Invercargill ..	2·25	2·25	2·25	2·50
	RICE, PER 1 LB.			
Auckland ..	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·33
Wellington ..	2	2	2·34	2·50
Christchurch ..	2·50	2·50	3	2·50
Dunedin ..	2	2	2·50	2·50
Whangarei ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	2·50
Hamilton ..	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75
Rotorua ..	2·75	2·75	3	3
Waihi ..	2·50	2·50	3	3
Gisborne ..	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75
Napier ..	2·83	2·58	3	3
Dannevirke ..	3	3	3	3
New Plymouth	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·50
Wanganui ..	3	3	3·25	2·50
Taihape ..	3	3	3	3
Palmerston N.	3	3	3	2·75
Masterton ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	3
Blenheim ..	3	3	3	3
Nelson ..	3	3	3	3
Greymouth ..	3	3	3	3
Ashburton ..	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·75
Timaru ..	2·25	2·25	2·50	2·50
Oamaru ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	3
Alexandra ..	2·75	2·75	3	2·75
Gore ..	2·75	3	3	3
Invercargill ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	2·75

Appendix B.—Quarterly Average Retail Prices, etc., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
Sago, per 1 lb.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	2	2	2·33	2·50
Wellington ..	2·33	2	2·50	2·50
Christchurch ..	2·50	2·50	3	2·50
Dunedin ..	2	2	2·50	2·50
Whangarei ..	2·50	2·25	2·75	2·50
Hamilton ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	2·75
Rotorua ..	2·75	2·75	3	3
Waihi ..	2·50	2·50	3	3
Gisborne ..	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75
Napier ..	2·75	2·75	3	3
Dannevirke ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	2·75
New Plymouth	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·50
Wanganui ..	2·25	2·25	2·50	2·50
Taihape ..	3	3	3	3
Palmerston N.	3	3	3	3
Masterton ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	3
Blenheim ..	3	3	3	3
Nelson ..	3	3	2·75	2·75
Greymouth ..	3	3	3	3·25
Ashburton ..	2	2	2·50	2·50
Timaru ..	2	2	2·50	2·50
Oamaru ..	2·50	2·50	3	3
Alexandra ..	3·25	3·25	3·50	3·50
Gore ..	3	3	3	3
Invercargill ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	2·75
Tapioca, per 1 lb.				
Auckland ..	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·45
Wellington ..	2·33	2	2·50	2·50
Christchurch ..	2·50	2·75	3	2·50
Dunedin ..	2	2	2·50	2·50
Whangarei ..	2·50	2·25	2·75	2·50
Hamilton ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	2·75
Rotorua ..	2·75	2·75	3	3
Waihi ..	2·50	2·50	3	3
Gisborne ..	3	3	2·75	2·75
Napier ..	2·75	2·75	3	3
Dannevirke ..	3	3	3	3
New Plymouth	2·50	2·50	2·50	2·50
Wanganui ..	2·25	2·25	2·50	2·75
Taihape ..	3	3	3	3
Palmerston N.	3	3	3	3
Masterton ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	3
Blenheim ..	3	3	3	3
Nelson ..	3	3	3	3
Greymouth ..	3	3	3	3·25
Ashburton ..	2	2	2·50	2·50
Timaru ..	2	2	2·50	2·50
Oamaru ..	2·50	2·50	3	3
Alexandra ..	3·25	3·25	3·50	3·50
Gore ..	3	3	3	3
Invercargill ..	2·50	2·50	2·75	2·75
Tea, per 1 lb.				
Auckland ..	18	18	18	17
Wellington ..	20	20	19·75	20·75
Christchurch ..	18	18	18	18
Dunedin ..	20	20	21·50	19·75
Whangarei ..	18	18	18	18
Hamilton ..	16	17·25	18	18
Rotorua ..	20	20	19·50	19·25
Waihi ..	18	18	18	18
Gisborne ..	18·75	18·50	20	20
Napier ..	22·67	22·50	22·50	23
Dannevirke ..	22	22	21·50	20·50
New Plymouth	24	24	18	18
Wanganui ..	18·25	18·25	18·25	18
Taihape ..	24	24	24	24
Palmerston N.	20·50	20·50	20·50	18
Masterton ..	24	24	23	23
Blenheim ..	20	20	20	20
Nelson ..	22	16	20·25	20
Greymouth ..	18	18	18	17
Ashburton ..	18·75	18·75	18·75	18·75
Timaru ..	18	18	16	18
Oamaru ..	20	20	20	20
Alexandra ..	20	20	20	20
Gore ..	18·75	19	18·25	18·75
Invercargill ..	18	18	19	20·25

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
Coffee, per 1 lb.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	20	20	20	19·33
Wellington ..	18	18	19·50	20
Christchurch ..	18	18	20	20
Dunedin ..	20	20	21·50	19·75
Whangarei ..	19·25	19·25	19·75	22
Hamilton ..	17	17	17	17
Rotorua ..	20	20	19·50	19·25
Waihi ..	20	20	18·75	19·25
Gisborne ..	21·50	21·75	21·75	21·75
Napier ..	21·75	22	21	22·25
Dannevirke ..	22	22	22	22
New Plymouth	20	20	20	20·50
Wanganui ..	21	21	20·75	18
Taihape ..	24	24	24	24
Palmerston N.	22	22	22	22
Masterton ..	20	20	20·50	21·75
Blenheim ..	22	22	21	21
Nelson ..	21	21	20·25	20
Greymouth ..	19	19	18·75	19·25
Ashburton ..	22·75	20·75	20·75	21
Timaru ..	20·25	20·25	20·25	20
Oamaru ..	21	21	21	21·50
Alexandra ..	24	24	24	24
Gore ..	20·25	20·50	20·75	20·75
Invercargill ..	21	21	20·50	20·50
Cocoa, per ½ lb. Tin.				
Auckland ..	9·50	9·50	9·50	9·50
Wellington ..	11	11	11	11·25
Christchurch ..	11	11	11·25	11·25
Dunedin ..	11	11	10·75	11
Whangarei ..	11	11	11·25	11
Hamilton ..	11	11	11	9·75
Rotorua ..	11	11	11·25	12
Waihi ..	11	11	11	11
Gisborne ..	10·50	10·50	11·50	11·25
Napier ..	11	11	11	11
Dannevirke ..	11	11	10·50	10·50
New Plymouth	10	10	12	11·50
Wanganui ..	10·75	10·75	10·75	11
Taihape ..	12	12	12	12
Palmerston N.	11·50	11·50	11·50	10·75
Masterton ..	11	11	11·25	11·50
Blenheim ..	11	11	11·50	11·50
Nelson ..	10	10	11	11
Greymouth ..	11·75	11·75	11·50	12
Ashburton ..	10·75	10·75	14·50	11·50
Timaru ..	11	11	12·25	11·75
Oamaru ..	11	11	11	11
Alexandra ..	11	11	11	11
Gore ..	10	10·25	9·75	10·75
Invercargill ..	11	11	11	11
Sugar, per 56 lb. Bag.				
Auckland ..	111	111	105	126·50
Wellington ..	114	110	113·41	134
Christchurch ..	126	126	129	145
Dunedin ..	108	114	116·50	135
Whangarei ..	111·75	109·50	110·25	132
Hamilton ..	115·50	115·50	117·50	134·50
Rotorua ..	136·50	136·50	137·25	156
Waihi ..	114	114	114	133
Gisborne ..	116·50	114·50	114	141
Napier ..	124·50	123·58	122	139·75
Dannevirke ..	114	114	130·50	144·50
New Plymouth	114	114	114	127·50
Wanganui ..	111	111	112	136
Taihape ..	138	126	138	156
Palmerston N.	118·50	118·50	118·50	143
Masterton ..	130·50	126	126·75	137·75
Blenheim ..	120	120	133·50	147
Nelson ..	129	129	122·50	144
Greymouth ..	123·25	122	120·25	138
Ashburton ..	113·75	113·75	116·50	138·75
Timaru ..	119	116	121	145
Oamaru ..	123	123	126	147
Alexandra ..	130·50	130·50	133·50	156
Gore ..	132·50	132·75	123·50	136·75
Invercargill ..	114	114	117	136·50

APPENDIX B.—QUARTERLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES, ETC., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
	SALT, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	0·50	0·50	0·50	0·75
Wellington ..	1	1	1	1
Christchurch ..	1	1	1	1
Dunedin ..	1	1	1	1
Whangarei ..	1	1	1	1
Hamilton ..	1	1	1	1
Rotorua ..	1	1	1	1
Waihi ..	1	1	1	1
Gisborne ..	1	1	1	1
Napier ..	1	1	1	1
Dannevirke ..	1	1	1	1
New Plymouth	1	1	1	1
Wanganui ..	1	1	1	1
Taihape ..	1	1	1	1
Palmerston N.	1	1	1	1
Masterton ..	1	1	1	1
Blenheim ..	1	1	1	1
Nelson ..	1	1	1	1
Greymouth ..	1	1	1	1
Ashburton ..	1	1	1	1
Timaru ..	1	1	1	1
Oamaru ..	1	1	1	1
Alexandra ..	1·25	1·25	1·25	1·25
Gore ..	1	1	1	1
Invercargill ..	1	1	1	1
	PEPPER, PER ¼ LB.			
Auckland ..	4	4	4	4·42
Wellington ..	6	6	5	4·75
Christchurch ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	4·50
Dunedin ..	4	4	4·25	4·25
Whangarei ..	4·75	4·75	4·75	4
Hamilton ..	4·25	4·25	4·25	4
Rotorua ..	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75
Waihi ..	4	4	4·25	4·25
Gisborne ..	5	4·75	4·75	5
Napier ..	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·50
Dannevirke ..	4	4	4·50	4
New Plymouth	5	5	4	5
Wanganui ..	4·25	4·25	4·75	4·25
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25
Masterton ..	5	5	5	5
Blenheim ..	9	9	6	6
Nelson ..	6	6	5·25	5
Greymouth ..	6	6	6	6
Ashburton ..	4	4	4	4·25
Timaru ..	5	5	5	5·25
Oamaru ..	5	5	5	5
Alexandra ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	4·75
Gore ..	5	5	5	5
Invercargill ..	5	5	5	4·50
	JAM, PER 1 LB.			
Auckland ..	5	5	5	5
Wellington ..	5	5	5	5·25
Christchurch ..	5	5	6	6
Dunedin ..	7	7	6	6·25
Whangarei ..	5·50	5·50	5·75	6
Hamilton ..	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75
Rotorua ..	5	5	5·50	6
Waihi ..	5	5	4·75	8·25
Gisborne ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·50
Napier ..	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke ..	5	5	5·25	5·25
New Plymouth	6	6	6	5·50
Wanganui ..	5·25	5·25	5·75	5·50
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·75
Masterton ..	6	6	4·25	6
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6
Nelson ..	6	6	6	6
Greymouth ..	5	5	5	5·25
Ashburton ..	5·25	4	5·25	5·50
Timaru ..	6	6	6	6
Oamaru ..	6	6	6	6
Alexandra ..	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75
Gore ..	6·25	6·25	6·50	8
Invercargill ..	5	5	6	5

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
	HONEY, PER 1 LB.			
	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	4·66	5	5	5·08
Wellington ..	7	7	6·50	6·25
Christchurch ..	6	6	6	6
Dunedin ..	6	6	6	6·25
Whangarei ..	6·50	6·50	6·75	7
Hamilton ..	6·25	6·25	6·25	6
Rotorua ..	7	7	7·25	10·75
Waihi ..	6	6	7	7
Gisborne ..	6	7·25	8	7
Napier ..	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke ..	6	6	6	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6
Wanganui ..	6·25	6·25	6·25	6
Taihape ..	6	6	6	7
Palmerston N.	6	6	6	6
Masterton ..	6	6	6·50	6·75
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6
Nelson ..	6·50	6·50	6	6
Greymouth ..	6	6	4	6
Ashburton ..	4	6·75	4	3·75
Timaru ..	5	5	5·50	6
Oamaru ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5
Alexandra ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	6·50
Gore ..	5·75	5·75	6	6
Invercargill ..	6	6	6	6
	GOLDEN SYRUP, PER 2 LB. TIN.			
Auckland ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·50
Wellington ..	6	6	6	6
Christchurch ..	6	6	6	6
Dunedin ..	6	6	6	5·75
Whangarei ..	6	6	6	6
Hamilton ..	6	6	6	6
Rotorua ..	6	6	6·25	6·50
Waihi ..	5·50	5·50	5·75	5·75
Gisborne ..	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75
Napier ..	7	7	7	6
Dannevirke ..	6	6	6·50	6·50
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6
Wanganui ..	6	6	6	6
Taihape ..	7	7	7	7
Palmerston N.	6	6	6	6·25
Masterton ..	7	7	6·75	6·75
Blenheim ..	7	7	7	7
Nelson ..	7	7	7·25	6·50
Greymouth ..	6·75	7	6	7
Ashburton ..	6·75	6	6·75	6·75
Timaru ..	6	6	6·25	6·75
Oamaru ..	6·50	6·50	7	7
Alexandra ..	7	7	7	7
Gore ..	7	7	6·75	7
Invercargill ..	6	6	6	6
	TREACLE, PER 2 LB.			
Auckland ..	5	5	5	5
Wellington ..	6	6	6	6
Christchurch ..	6	6	6	6
Dunedin ..	5	5	5	5
Whangarei ..	5	5	5	5
Hamilton ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·50
Rotorua ..	6	6	6	6
Waihi ..	5	5	5·75	5
Gisborne ..	6	6	6	6
Napier ..	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25
Dannevirke ..	5·50	5·50	6	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6
Wanganui ..	6	6	6	6
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	6	6	6	6
Masterton ..	7	7	6·50	6·75
Blenheim ..	7	7	7	6·50
Nelson ..	6	6	7·25	6·50
Greymouth ..	6·25	6·25	7	6·25
Ashburton ..	6	6	6	6
Timaru ..	5·75	5·75	6	6
Oamaru ..	6	6	6	6
Alexandra ..	6	6	6	6
Gore ..	6	6	5·75	6
Invercargill ..	6	6	6	6

Appendix B.—Quarterly Average Retail Prices, etc., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
Raisins, per 1 lb.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	4	4	4·67	5·67
Wellington ..	5·67	6	6	6
Christchurch ..	5	6	6·75	7
Dunedin ..	5	5	5·50	5·75
Whangarei ..	5·25	5·50	6·25	6
Hamilton ..	5·50	5·50	5·75	6·50
Rotorua ..	5·50	5·50	6	7
Waihi ..	5	6	6	7
Gisborne ..	5·75	5·50	6	6
Napier ..	6·08	6	6·75	7·25
Dannevirke ..	5	5	5·50	6
New Plymouth	4	4	6	6
Wanganui ..	4·75	4·75	5·75	5·75
Taihape ..	6	6	6	8
Palmerston N.	6	6	6	6·75
Masterton ..	4	4	5·75	6
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6·50
Nelson ..	4·50	4·50	6	6
Greymouth ..	5·25	5·25	6·50	6·75
Ashburton ..	5	5	6	6·75
Timaru ..	4·25	4·25	5·50	5·50
Oamaru ..	6	6	7	7
Alexandra ..	6·25	6·25	6	7
Gore ..	5·75	5·75	6·75	6·75
Invercargill ..	5	5	5	5·50
Currants, per 1 lb.				
Auckland ..	4	4	5·33	5·75
Wellington ..	4·50	4·50	5·25	5·25
Christchurch ..	4·75	5	6	6
Dunedin ..	4·50	4·50	5	4·50
Whangarei ..	5	5	6	6
Hamilton ..	4·75	4·75	5·25	5·75
Rotorua ..	5·50	5·50	6	6·25
Waihi ..	5	5	6	6
Gisborne ..	5	4·75	5·25	5·75
Napier ..	5	5·08	6	7·25
Dannevirke ..	5	5	6	5·75
New Plymouth	5	5	5	5·50
Wanganui ..	4·75	4·75	6	5·75
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·25
Masterton ..	4	4	5	5·75
Blenheim ..	5	5	5·50	5·50
Nelson ..	4·50	4·50	5·50	6
Greymouth ..	5	5	6	6·50
Ashburton ..	4	4	5	5·50
Timaru ..	4	4	5	5·75
Oamaru ..	4·75	4·75	6	6
Alexandra ..	6·25	6·25	6	6·50
Gore ..	5	5	5·25	5
Invercargill ..	4	4	4·75	5·75
Apricots, per 2½ lb. Tin.				
Auckland ..	11	11	11·33	11
Wellington ..	12	12	11·25	11·25
Christchurch ..	12	12	12	12
Dunedin ..	11	11	11·25	11
Whangarei ..	10·75	10·75	10·75	11
Hamilton ..	10·50	10·50	10·50	10·50
Rotorua ..	12	12	12	12
Waihi ..	12	12	11·75	11·25
Gisborne ..	12	11·75	11·75	12·75
Napier ..	12	12	12	12
Dannevirke ..	11·50	11·50	11·50	11·50
New Plymouth	10	10	10	11
Wanganui ..	11·75	11·75	11·75	10·75
Taihape ..	12	12	12	12
Palmerston N.	11·50	11·50	11·50	11·25
Masterton ..	12	12	12	12
Blenheim ..	12	12	12	12
Nelson ..	12	12	11·75	12
Greymouth ..	10·75	10·75	11	11·75
Ashburton ..	11·75	11·75	12	12
Timaru ..	11·25	11·25	12·25	12·25
Oamaru ..	12	12	12	12
Alexandra ..	12	12	12	12
Gore ..	11·75	11·75	11·25	11·75
Invercargill ..	12	12	12	12

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
Pears, per 2½ lb. Tin.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	12	12	13·33	12
Wellington ..	12	12	11·25	11·25
Christchurch ..	12	12	12	12
Dunedin ..	11	11	11·75	11·50
Whangarei ..	11·75	11·75	11·75	12
Hamilton ..	11·50	11·50	11·25	11·50
Rotorua ..	13	13	13	13
Waihi ..	12	12	12	12
Gisborne ..	12·50	12	12	11·75
Napier ..	13	12·83	13	13
Dannevirke ..	12	12	12	11·50
New Plymouth	12	12	12	12
Wanganui ..	12·75	12·75	13	12·75
Taihape ..	14	14	14	14
Palmerston N.	12	12	12	12·75
Masterton ..	12	12	12	12
Blenheim ..	12	12	12	12
Nelson ..	10	12	12·50	12·50
Greymouth ..	11·25	11·25	11·75	12·25
Ashburton ..	11·75	11·75	12	12
Timaru ..	12	12	12·75	12·25
Oamaru ..	12	12	12	12
Alexandra ..	12·50	12·50	12·50	13
Gore ..	12	12	11·50	12
Invercargill ..	12	12	12	12
Peaches, per 2½ lb. Tin.				
Auckland ..	11	11	11·33	11
Wellington ..	12	12	11·25	11·25
Christchurch ..	12	12	12	12
Dunedin ..	11	11	11·25	11
Whangarei ..	11·25	11·25	11·25	11
Hamilton ..	10·50	10·50	10·50	10·50
Rotorua ..	12	12	12	12
Waihi ..	12	12	11·75	11·75
Gisborne ..	12	11·75	11·75	11·75
Napier ..	12	12	12	12
Dannevirke ..	12	12	12	12
New Plymouth	10	10	10	11
Wanganui ..	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·25
Taihape ..	12	12	12	12
Palmerston N.	11·50	11·50	11·50	12
Masterton ..	12	12	12	12
Blenheim ..	12	12	12	12
Nelson ..	12	12	12	12
Greymouth ..	10·75	10·75	11	11·75
Ashburton ..	11·75	11·75	12	12
Timaru ..	11·25	11·25	12·25	12
Oamaru ..	12	12	12	12
Alexandra ..	12	12	12	12
Gore ..	12	12	11·25	11·75
Invercargill ..	12	12	12	12
Prunes (Dried), per 1 lb.				
Auckland ..	5	5	5·67	5·75
Wellington ..	6	5·67	7	6
Christchurch ..	6	6	7·25	6
Dunedin ..	6	6	6·50	6
Whangarei ..	5·25	6	6	6
Hamilton ..	5.50	5·50	5·75	5·50
Rotorua ..	5	5	6·25	6·75
Waihi ..	5	5	5·75	6
Gisborne ..	5·50	5·50	6·25	6·75
Napier ..	6·33	6·83	7·25	7·25
Dannevirke ..	6	6	7	7
New Plymouth	4	4	6	6
Wanganui ..	6·25	6	7·75	6·25
Taihape ..	6	6	6	9
Palmerston N.	7·25	7·25	7·25	6·75
Masterton ..	5	5	5·75	6
Blenheim ..	7	7	7·50	7·50
Nelson ..	6	6	7·50	6·50
Greymouth ..	6·25	6·75	7·25	8
Ashburton ..	6	6	7·25	8
Timaru ..	6	6	7·50	7
Oamaru ..	6	6	8	8
Alexandra ..	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50
Gore ..	6	6·50	7·50	8
Invercargill ..	6	6	6·75	7

APPENDIX B.—QUARTERLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES, ETC., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
APRICOTS, PER 1 LB.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	10	10·33	11	10·67
Wellington ..	9	9·67	10·25	10
Christchurch ..	11	11	11·75	12
Dunedin ..	11	11	11·50	10·50
Whangarei ..	10·75	11·75	11·25	10
Hamilton ..	11	11	11	10
Rotorua ..	12	12	12·50	12
Waihi ..	12	12	11	10·50
Gisborne ..	11·75	11·75	12	12
Napier ..	11·25	11·25	12·25	12·75
Dannevirke ..	12·50	12·50	12·25	11·50
New Plymouth	10	10	10	10
Wanganui ..	10·75	12	12·75	10·75
Taihape ..	14	14	14	14
Palmerston N.	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25
Masterton ..	12	12	11·75	11·50
Blenheim ..	10	10	10·50	10·50
Nelson ..	10	10	12·25	12
Greymouth ..	10	10	10·25	11·50
Ashburton ..	10	10	10·75	10·50
Timaru ..	11	11·75	12	11·25
Oamaru ..	11·50	11·50	13	12
Alexandra ..	12	12	12	12
Gore ..	11·50	11·50	12	12
Invercargill ..	12	12	12	11·75
POTATOES, PER 14 LB.				
Auckland ..	9	10	10·67	13
Wellington ..	10·50	12	11	12
Christchurch ..	8	8	9·75	7·50
Dunedin ..	12	9	7·25	14·75
Whangarei ..	9·50	10·50	10·75	18
Hamilton ..	13·50	13·50	12·50	15·25
Rotorua ..	12	12	12	21·25
Waihi ..	15	12	10·50	22·25
Gisborne ..	12	12	12·25	20·25
Napier ..	12·92	12	12	14
Dannevirke ..	12	12	12	21
New Plymouth	18	12	10	25·50
Wanganui ..	12	12	10	20
Taihape ..	12	12	13	28
Palmerston N.	11·50	11·50	11·50	23
Masterton ..	12	12	12·75	15·25
Blenheim ..	12	9	9	29
Nelson ..	12	12	12	18
Greymouth ..	12	12	12	12·25
Ashburton ..	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50
Timaru ..	12	11·50	10·25	20
Oamaru ..	9·50	9·50	9	42
Alexandra ..	12	12	12	24
Gore ..	12	12	12	20·75
Invercargill ..	21·25	12	12	11·75
ONIONS, PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	1·25	1·50	1·84	2·37
Wellington ..	2	1·84	2	3
Christchurch ..	1	1	1	2·75
Dunedin ..	1	1	1·75	2·75
Whangarei ..	2	1·50	2·50	3
Hamilton ..	2	2	2·25	3
Rotorua ..	1·50	1·50	2·50	4
Waihi ..	1·50	1·50	2·75	3
Gisborne ..	2	2	2·25	3
Napier ..	2·08	2	2	3·50
Dannevirke ..	1·75	1·75	1·75	2·75
New Plymouth	2	1	2	3·50
Wanganui ..	1·50	1·50	2	3
Taihape ..	2	2	2	3
Palmerston N.	1·75	1·75	1·75	3
Masterton ..	2	2	2	3
Blenheim ..	2	2	1·75	2
Nelson ..	1	1	1	3
Greymouth ..	2	1·50	1·50	3
Ashburton ..	1	1	1	3·25
Timaru ..	1	1	1·75	3
Oamaru ..	3	3	2	4
Alexandra ..	2	2	2	4
Gore ..	1·50	1·50	2·75	3·25
Invercargill ..	1	1	1·25	2·75

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
SALMON, PER 1 LB. TIN.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	11	12	12	11·50
Wellington ..	12	12	11	12·25
Christchurch ..	14	14	14	14
Dunedin ..	12	12	13·75	11·75
Whangarei ..	12·50	11·50	12	13
Hamilton ..	11	11	10·50	10·50
Rotorua ..	12	12	12	14·50
Waihi ..	12	12	9·75	9
Gisborne ..	12·25	13·75	13	13·25
Napier ..	13·17	13·50	13·25	13·50
Dannevirke ..	11	11	11	12
New Plymouth	10	10	10	11
Wanganui ..	11·25	11·25	13	12
Taihape ..	12	12	12	12
Palmerston N.	11·75	11·75	11·75	12·75
Masterton ..	12	12	12	12·50
Blenheim ..	12	12	13	13
Nelson ..	13	13	12·25	12
Greymouth ..	12	12	12	12
Ashburton ..	12	12	12	12·75
Timaru ..	12·75	12·75	13·25	13·25
Oamaru ..	14	14	14	14
Alexandra ..	15	15	15·50	15·50
Gore ..	13	13	15·25	14·75
Invercargill ..	13	13	13·50	14·50
HERRINGS, PER 1 LB. TIN.				
Auckland ..	6	7	7	7·62
Wellington ..	7	7	7	7·75
Christchurch ..	7	7	7·50	8
Dunedin ..	7	7	8·25	8·50
Whangarei ..	7·50	7·25	7·25	7
Hamilton ..	7·25	7·25	7·50	8·50
Rotorua ..	9	9	9	9
Waihi ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	7
Gisborne ..	9·25	9	8	8·75
Napier ..	8·75	8·75	9	9
Dannevirke ..	8·50	8·50	9	9
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8
Wanganui ..	7·75	7·75	8·25	9
Taihape ..	10	10	11	11
Palmerston N.	7·50	7·50	7·50	9
Masterton ..	8	8	7·75	8·75
Blenheim ..	8	8	9	9
Nelson ..	9	9	10·50	8
Greymouth ..	8	8	8·75	8·50
Ashburton ..	6	7	7	8
Timaru ..	7	7	8	7·75
Oamaru ..	9	9	9·50	9
Alexandra ..	9	9	9·50	9·50
Gore ..	7·50	7·50	10	10·50
Invercargill ..	7	7	8·50	8·75
STARCH, PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	5	5	5·67	6
Wellington ..	6	6	6	6
Christchurch ..	6	6	6·25	6
Dunedin ..	6	6	6·50	6
Whangarei ..	6	6	6·25	6
Hamilton ..	6	6	6	6
Rotorua ..	6	6	6	6
Waihi ..	5·50	5·50	6	6
Gisborne ..	6	6	6	6·25
Napier ..	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke ..	6	6	6·25	6·50
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6
Wanganui ..	6	6	6	6
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	6	6	6	6
Masterton ..	6	6	6	6
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6
Nelson ..	6	6	7·75	6
Greymouth ..	6	6	6·50	6·50
Ashburton ..	6	6	6	6·25
Timaru ..	6	6	6	6
Oamaru ..	6	6	6	6
Alexandra ..	7·25	7·25	7·50	7·50
Gore ..	6	6	6·25	6·75
Invercargill ..	6	6	6·25	6·50

Appendix B.—Quarterly Average Retail Prices, etc., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
Blue, per 1 lb.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	9	9	9	9
Wellington ..	9	9	9	9·25
Christchurch ..	9	9	9·75	10
Dunedin ..	9	9	9	9
Whangarei ..	9·75	9·75	10	10
Hamilton ..	10	10	10	10
Rotorua ..	10	10	10	10
Waihi ..	10	10	9·75	9·75
Gisborne ..	11·25	11	11	11·25
Napier ..	10·50	10·50	10·50	10·50
Dannevirke ..	9·50	9·50	9·50	9·50
New Plymouth	10	10	10	10
Wanganui ..	10	10	10	10
Taihape ..	12	12	12	12
Palmerston N.	10	10	10	9·25
Masterton ..	11	11	10·75	10·25
Blenheim ..	12	12	12	12
Nelson ..	10	10	10·50	10
Greymouth ..	10·75	10·75	11·25	12
Ashburton ..	9·75	9·75	10·25	11·25
Timaru ..	9·25	9·25	9·75	8·50
Oamaru ..	10	10	11	10
Alexandra ..	9·50	9·50	9·50	9·50
Gore ..	10	10	10·25	10·50
Invercargill ..	9	9	9·25	9·50
Soap, per Bar (36 to Cwt.).				
Auckland ..	9	9	9	8·58
Wellington ..	11	11	10	10
Christchurch ..	9	9	9	9
Dunedin ..	11	11	9·50	9·75
Whangarei ..	8·25	8·25	8·25	9
Hamilton ..	11·50	11·50	11	9·75
Rotorua ..	9·50	9·50	9·75	9·50
Waihi ..	11	11	11	11
Gisborne ..	10·50	10	10	10·25
Napier ..	9·42	9·50	9·50	9·75
Dannevirke ..	9·50	9·50	7·25	9·50
New Plymouth	10	10	10	9·50
Wanganui ..	8·25	8·25	8·75	8·25
Taihape ..	9	9	9	9
Palmerston N.	9·25	9·25	9·25	8·25
Masterton ..	6·25	6	8·50	10
Blenheim ..	10	10	10	10
Nelson ..	11	11	9·75	8·50
Greymouth ..	6·75	6·75	7	7·50
Ashburton ..	9	9	9	9
Timaru ..	7·75	7·75	7·75	9
Oamaru ..	11	11	11	10·50
Alexandra ..	11	11	11	11
Gore ..	8·75	8·75	8	7·75
Invercargill ..	11	11	10·25	10
Tobacco, per 1 lb.				
Auckland ..	69	69	69	69·50
Wellington ..	78	78	74	72
Christchurch ..	69	69	75	75
Dunedin ..	76	76	70	70·75
Whangarei ..	69·75	70·75	70·75	75
Hamilton ..	68	68	68	70·50
Rotorua ..	69	69	73·50	70·75
Waihi ..	72	72	67·25	71·25
Gisborne ..	72	72	72	72
Napier ..	71·50	70·50	76·25	75·75
Dannevirke ..	72	72	72	71
New Plymouth	66	66	72	70
Wanganui ..	69	69	68	72
Taihape ..	78	78	78	78
Palmerston N.	72	72	72	74·75
Masterton ..	72	72	74·50	75
Blenheim ..	80	80	76	76
Nelson ..	72	72	71·50	70·50
Greymouth ..	71	71·25	72	72
Ashburton ..	70	70	71	70
Timaru ..	68	68	68	68
Oamaru ..	72	72	72	72
Alexandra ..	72	72	72	72
Gore ..	73	73	70·50	73·75
Invercargill ..	69	69	70	70·50

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
Milk, per Quart.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	4	4	4	4
Wellington ..	4	5	4·67	4
Christchurch ..	4	4	4	3
Dunedin ..	4	4	4	4
Whangarei ..	3·50	4	4	4
Hamilton ..	4	4	4	3·75
Rotorua ..	4	4	4	4
Waihi ..	4	4	4	4
Gisborne ..	4	4	4	4
Napier ..	4	4	4	4
Dannevirke ..	4	4	4	4
New Plymouth	4	4	4	3
Wanganui ..	4	4	4	4
Taihape ..	4	4	5	4
Palmerston N.	3	3	3	4
Masterton ..	4	4	4	3
Blenheim ..	4	4	4	4
Nelson ..	4	4	4	3·50
Greymouth ..	4	4	4	4
Ashburton ..	4	4	4	4
Timaru ..	4	4	4	4
Oamaru ..	3	4	4	4
Alexandra ..	4	5	5	4
Gore ..	4	4	4	4
Invercargill ..	4	4	4	3·50
Butter, per 1 lb.				
Auckland ..	13	13	13·67	14·33
Wellington ..	15	15	14·50	15
Christchurch ..	14	14·75	14	14
Dunedin ..	14	14	14·50	14
Whangarei ..	14	14	14·50	15
Hamilton ..	14·50	14·83	15	14·75
Rotorua ..	14	15	14·75	15
Waihi ..	14	14	14	15
Gisborne ..	15	15	14·75	14·75
Napier ..	15	15	15	15
Dannevirke ..	14	14	14·50	14·50
New Plymouth	15	15	14	14
Wanganui ..	14	14	13·75	13·25
Taihape ..	15	15	15	15
Palmerston N.	13·50	13·50	13·50	13·25
Masterton ..	14	14	14	14
Blenheim ..	15	15	15	14·50
Nelson ..	14	15	13·75	14
Greymouth ..	13·83	14·08	14·67	14
Ashburton ..	14·75	14·75	14·75	14
Timaru ..	14·75	15	14·50	14·50
Oamaru ..	14	14	14	14
Alexandra ..	14·50	14·50	14·50	14·25
Gore ..	14·75	15·25	15·75	14·50
Invercargill ..	13·33	13·33	14·33	14·75
Cheese, per 1 lb.				
Auckland ..	9	9	9	8·92
Wellington ..	9	9	9	9
Christchurch ..	9	9	9	9
Dunedin ..	9	9	9·25	9·25
Whangarei ..	8	8	8·75	9
Hamilton ..	8·50	8·50	8·50	9
Rotorua ..	9	9	9	9
Waihi ..	8	8	8	7
Gisborne ..	9	9	9	8·75
Napier ..	9	9	9	9
Dannevirke ..	8	8	7	8·50
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8·50
Wanganui ..	7·75	7·75	8·25	8
Taihape ..	9	9	9	9
Palmerston N.	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25
Masterton ..	8	8	8·08	8
Blenheim ..	9	9	8·67	8·50
Nelson ..	9	9	9	9
Greymouth ..	8·75	8·75	9	8
Ashburton ..	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75
Timaru ..	8	8	8·50	8·75
Oamaru ..	8·50	8·50	9	9
Alexandra ..	9·50	9·50	9·50	10
Gore ..	9	9	7·25	9
Invercargill ..	9	9	9	9

APPENDIX B.—QUARTERLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES, ETC., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
EGGS, PER DOZEN.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	17·67	22·67	14·33	15·58
Wellington ..	26	24	14	18·75
Christchurch ..	17	22·75	13	13
Dunedin ..	18	29	13·25	15·75
Whangarei ..	16·75	21·50	10	15
Hamilton ..	14·50	17·33	13·33	13·75
Rotorua ..	23	24·50	14	19·25
Waihi ..	15	22	12	16
Gisborne ..	21·50	23·25	14	17·75
Napier ..	20·75	26	16·50	17·67
Dannevirke ..	12	12	12·50	15
New Plymouth	18	27	12	16
Wanganui ..	21·25	20·75	13	18
Taihape ..	22	24	15	18
Palmerston N.	13·25	13·25	13·25	16·25
Masterton ..	16	26·67	14	14·75
Blenheim ..	12·67	19·33	13·50	15
Nelson ..	20	21	11·75	16
Greymouth ..	24	30	18·42	18
Ashburton ..	11	11	11	11·42
Timaru ..	14·25	15·25	11·50	15·75
Oamaru ..	11	11	11	16
Alexandra ..	16	16	14·50	16·50
Gore ..	16·25	17·75	11	14·75
Invercargill ..	13	22	14	14
BACON (SHOULDER), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	7	7	7	7·37
Wellington ..	9	9	8	8
Christchurch ..	7·50	7·50	7·50	7·75
Dunedin ..	12	12	12·50	11·25
Whangarei ..	8·75	8·75	8·50	9
Hamilton ..	6·75	6·75	6·75	7·50
Rotorua ..	12	12	10·75	11
Waihi ..	7·50	7·50	8	8
Gisborne ..	8·75	8·75	9·25	9·50
Napier ..	8	8	7·83	8·08
Dannevirke ..	11	11	10·25	10·25
New Plymouth	8	8	8	7
Wanganui ..	8	8	8	8·25
Taihape ..	10	10	10	10
Palmerston N.	9	9	9	9·25
Masterton ..	6·50	6·50	7·75	8·50
Blenheim ..	7	7	8·33	9
Nelson ..	9	9	9	8·50
Greymouth ..	10	10	10	10
Ashburton ..	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25
Timaru ..	9·50	9·50	9·50	10
Oamaru ..	12	12	12	12
Alexandra ..	12·50	12	12	11
Gore ..	12·25	12·25	12·50	12
Invercargill ..	11	11	11	11
BACON (MIDDLE CUT), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	12	12	12	11·46
Wellington ..	11	11	12	13·75
Christchurch ..	11	11	11	11
Dunedin ..	12	12	11·50	12
Whangarei ..	11·75	11·75	11·75	12
Hamilton ..	10·75	10·75	10·83	11·25
Rotorua ..	14	14	13·25	12·75
Waihi ..	11	11	11	11
Gisborne ..	12·50	12·50	13·50	13·25
Napier ..	13·67	13·75	13·83	13·83
Dannevirke ..	13	13	13	13
New Plymouth	11	11	10	10·50
Wanganui ..	10·75	11	11	11·25
Taihape ..	12	12	12	12
Palmerston N.	11·75	11·75	11·75	12·75
Masterton ..	12	12	12·67	12·25
Blenheim ..	14	14	13·67	13·50
Nelson ..	13	13	12·75	12·50
Greymouth ..	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·50
Ashburton ..	12·50	12·50	12·50	12·50
Timaru ..	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75
Oamaru ..	12	12	12	12
Alexandra ..	12·50	12	12·50	12
Gore ..	12·25	12·25	12·25	12·25
Invercargill ..	11	11	11·33	11·50

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
HAM, PER 1 LB.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	12	11·33	11	11·58
Wellington ..	12	12	13	11
Christchurch ..	13	13	13	12·75
Dunedin ..	12	12	13·75	12·25
Whangarei ..	12·25	12	11·75	12
Hamilton ..	13·50	13·17	13	12·50
Rotorua ..	13·50	13·50	13·50	13·25
Waihi ..	13	12	12	11
Gisborne ..	14	14	13·75	12·75
Napier ..	12	12	16·33	18·75
Dannevirke ..	12	12	12	11·75
New Plymouth	10	10	10	10
Wanganui ..	11·75	12	11·75	11·25
Taihape ..	14	14	14	14
Palmerston N.	14	14	14	11·75
Masterton ..	14	14	13·25	12·50
Blenheim ..	14	14	13·67	13·50
Nelson ..	14	14	12·75	12
Greymouth ..	13·42	13·25	12·83	12·50
Ashburton ..	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75
Timaru ..	12·25	12·25	12·25	11·25
Oamaru ..	12	12	12·50	12
Alexandra ..	13	13	13	12
Gore ..	12·50	12·50	12·50	12
Invercargill ..	12	12	12	12
BEEF (SIRLOIN), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	7	7	7	7·33
Wellington ..	7·25	7·25	7·25	8
Christchurch ..	6	6	7·50	7·50
Dunedin ..	6·50	6·50	7·25	7·50
Whangarei ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	7·50
Hamilton ..	7	7	7	7·50
Rotorua ..	7·25	7·25	7	7·50
Waihi ..	6	6	6	6
Gisborne ..	5·50	6	6	7
Napier ..	7	7	7·33	8
Dannevirke ..	6	6	6·50	7
New Plymouth	7	7	7	8
Wanganui ..	5·50	7	5	5·75
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	6	6	6	7
Masterton ..	6	6	6	6·50
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6·75
Nelson ..	7	7	7	7·50
Greymouth ..	6	7·50	8	8
Ashburton ..	6·75	6·75	7	7
Timaru ..	7	7	7	8
Oamaru ..	7	7	7·50	8·25
Alexandra ..	7	7	7	7
Gore ..	7	7	7	8
Invercargill ..	6	6	6·25	6·50
BEEF (BRISKET), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	3·50	3·50	3·50	4
Wellington ..	3·75	3·75	3·75	4
Christchurch ..	4	4	4	4
Dunedin ..	4	4	4·50	4·50
Whangarei ..	3·50	4	4	4
Hamilton ..	3·50	3·50	3·50	5
Rotorua ..	4	4	4	4·25
Waihi ..	4	4	4	4
Gisborne ..	4·50	5	5	5·50
Napier ..	4	4	4·33	5
Dannevirke ..	4	4	4·25	4·75
New Plymouth	4	4	4	5
Wanganui ..	4·50	4	4·50	4·50
Taihape ..	5	5	5	5
Palmerston N.	4	4	4	5
Masterton ..	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25
Blenheim ..	5	5	5	4·50
Nelson ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·50
Greymouth ..	5	6	6	6
Ashburton ..	5	5	5	5·50
Timaru ..	4	4	4·25	5
Oamaru ..	4·50	4·50	4·75	4·75
Alexandra ..	5	5	6	6
Gore ..	4·50	4·75	4·75	5·25
Invercargill ..	4	4	4·25	4·75

APPENDIX B.—QUARTERLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES, ETC., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
BEEF (PRIME RIBS), PER 1 LB.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	6	6	6	6
Wellington ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Christchurch ..	6	6	6·50	6·50
Dunedin ..	5·50	5·50	6·25	6·50
Whangarei ..	5·50	6	6	7
Hamilton ..	6	6	6	6·50
Rotorua ..	6	6	6	6
Waihi ..	5	5	5	5
Gisborne ..	4·50	5	5	6
Napier ..	6	6	6·33	7
Dannevirke ..	5·50	5·50	5·75	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	7
Wanganui ..	5	6	5	5
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5	5	5	6
Masterton ..	5	5	5	5·50
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	5·50
Nelson ..	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·50
Greymouth ..	6	7	7	7
Ashburton ..	6	6	6	6·25
Timaru ..	6	6	6	7
Oamaru ..	6·50	6·50	7	7·50
Alexandra ..	6	6	7	7
Gore ..	6	6	6	7
Invercargill ..	6	6	6	5·75
BEEF (RUMP STEAK), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	11	11	11	11
Wellington ..	9·25	9·25	9·25	10
Christchurch ..	8	8	10	10
Dunedin ..	8·25	8·25	9·25	9·50
Whangarei ..	9	9	9	10
Hamilton ..	8·50	8·50	8·50	10
Rotorua ..	9	9	9	10
Waihi ..	9	9	9	9
Gisborne ..	7	8	8	10
Napier ..	7·50	7·50	8	9
Dannevirke ..	7	7	7·50	8
New Plymouth	9	9	9	10
Wanganui ..	8	9	8	8
Taihape ..	8	8	8	8
Palmerston N.	7·50	7·50	7·50	8·25
Masterton ..	7·25	7·25	7·50	8·25
Blenheim ..	7	7	7	8·50
Nelson ..	7·50	7·50	7·50	8
Greymouth ..	8	9	9	9·75
Ashburton ..	9·25	9·25	9·25	10
Timaru ..	8·75	8·75	8·50	10
Oamaru ..	8	8	8·50	9·50
Alexandra ..	8	8	8	8
Gore ..	9	9	9	10
Invercargill ..	9	9	9	9
BEEF (TOP SIDE), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	6	6	6	6·50
Wellington ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Christchurch ..	4·50	4·50	7	7
Dunedin ..	6·50	6·50	7·25	7
Whangarei ..	5·50	6	6	7
Hamilton ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6·50
Rotorua ..	5	5	5	5
Waihi ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Gisborne ..	4·75	5·50	5·50	6·50
Napier ..	5	5	5·33	6
Dannevirke ..	6	6	6·25	6·50
New Plymouth	6·50	6·50	6·50	7
Wanganui ..	5	5·50	5	5
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5	5	5	6
Masterton ..	6	6	6	6
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6
Nelson ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	6
Greymouth ..	6	7	7	8
Ashburton ..	7	7	7	7
Timaru ..	6	6	6	8
Oamaru ..	6·50	6·50	7	8
Alexandra ..	6	6	7	7
Gore ..	7	7	7	7·75
Invercargill ..	6	6	6	6·75

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
BEEF (STEWING-STEAK), PER 1 LB.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	7	7	7	8
Wellington ..	5·25	5·25	5·25	5
Christchurch ..	5	5	7	7
Dunedin ..	5·75	5·75	6·50	6·50
Whangarei ..	6	6	6	7
Hamilton ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	5
Rotorua ..	4	4	5·25	5·25
Waihi ..	5	5	5	5
Gisborne ..	5	6	6	6·50
Napier ..	5	5	5·17	5·50
Dannevirke ..	4	4	4·25	4·75
New Plymouth	5	5	5	6
Wanganui ..	5	6	5	5
Taihape ..	5	5	5	5
Palmerston N.	5	5	5	6
Masterton ..	5·75	5·75	5·75	6
Blenheim ..	5	5	5	6·50
Nelson ..	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·50
Greymouth ..	5·25	6	6	7
Ashburton ..	6	6	6·25	6·75
Timaru ..	5·75	5·75	5·50	7·25
Oamaru ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	7
Alexandra ..	6	6	6	6
Gore ..	6·50	6·25	6·25	7
Invercargill ..	6	6	6	6
BEEF (CORNED ROUND), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	6	6	6	6·50
Wellington ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Christchurch ..	6	6	6·50	6·50
Dunedin ..	6·25	6·25	7·25	7·25
Whangarei ..	5·50	6	6	7
Hamilton ..	6	6	6	6·50
Rotorua ..	6	6	5·25	6
Waihi ..	5	5	5	5
Gisborne ..	4·50	5	5	6
Napier ..	5	5	5·67	7
Dannevirke ..	5·50	5·50	5·75	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	7
Wanganui ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·50
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5	5	5	6
Masterton ..	5·75	5·75	5·75	6
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6
Nelson ..	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·50
Greymouth ..	5·25	7	7	7
Ashburton ..	6·75	6·75	6·75	7
Timaru ..	7	7	7	8
Oamaru ..	6	6	6	7
Alexandra ..	6	6	7	7
Gore ..	7	7	7	8
Invercargill ..	6	6	6·25	6·50
BEEF (CORNED ROLL), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	5	5	5	5·50
Wellington ..	4·75	4·75	4·75	5
Christchurch ..	5	5	6·50	6·50
Dunedin ..	5·25	5·25	6·25	6·25
Whangarei ..	5·50	6	6	6
Hamilton ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Rotorua ..	6	6	5·25	6
Waihi ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	4·50
Gisborne ..	4·50	5	5	6
Napier ..	5	5	5·33	6
Dannevirke ..	5·50	5·50	4·25	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6·50
Wanganui ..	4·50	5	4·50	4·75
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5	5	5	6
Masterton ..	4·75	4·75	4·75	5·25
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	5·50
Nelson ..	6	6	6	6·50
Greymouth ..	6	7	7	6·75
Ashburton ..	6·75	6·75	6·75	7
Timaru ..	6	6	6	7
Oamaru ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6·50
Alexandra ..	5	5	7	6
Gore ..	6	6	6	7
Invercargill ..	5	5	5·50	5·50

APPENDIX B.—QUARTERLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES, ETC., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
BEEF (CORNED BRISKET), PER 1 LB.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	3·50	3·50	3·50	4
Wellington ..	4	4	4	4
Christchurch ..	5	5	6·50	6·50
Dunedin ..	4	4	4·50	4·50
Whangarei ..	3·50	4	4	4
Hamilton ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Rotorua ..	4·25	4·25	4	4·75
Waihi ..	4	4	4	4
Gisborne ..	4·50	5	5	6
Napier ..	4·25	4·25	4·50	5
Dannevirke ..	4	4	5·75	4·50
New Plymouth	5	5	5	6
Wanganui ..	4·50	5	4·50	4·75
Taihape ..	5	5	5	5
Palmerston N.	5	5	5	6
Masterton ..	4·25	4·25	4·50	4·75
Blenheim ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	4·75
Nelson ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Greymouth ..	5	6	6	6
Ashburton ..	5	5	5	5·50
Timaru ..	5·25	5·25	5	7
Oamaru ..	5	5	5·25	5·75
Alexandra ..	5	5	6	6
Gore ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	5·50
Invercargill ..	4	4	4·25	4·75
MUTTON (LEG), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	6·33
Wellington ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Christchurch ..	5·50	5·50	6·50	6·50
Dunedin ..	5·25	5·25	6	6
Whangarei ..	6	6·50	6·50	7·50
Hamilton ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	7
Rotorua ..	8	8	6·25	7
Waihi ..	7	7	7	7
Gisborne ..	5	6	6	7
Napier ..	5	5	5·33	6
Dannevirke ..	5·50	5·50	5·75	6
New Plymouth	7	7	7	8
Wanganui ..	5·50	6	5·50	5·50
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5·25	5·25	5·25	6
Masterton ..	6	6	6	6·25
Blenheim ..	5	5	5	6·50
Nelson ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Greymouth ..	6	7·50	8	8
Ashburton ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Timaru ..	5·75	5·75	5·50	7
Oamaru ..	5·50	5·50	6	6
Alexandra ..	5·50	5·50	6·50	6·50
Gore ..	6·25	6·50	6·50	7
Invercargill ..	6	6	6·25	6·50
MUTTON (SHOULDER), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·50
Wellington ..	4·75	4·75	4·75	5
Christchurch ..	4	4	5	5
Dunedin ..	4·25	4·25	4·75	4·75
Whangarei ..	5	5·50	5·50	6
Hamilton ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Rotorua ..	5	5	5	5
Waihi ..	6	6	6	6
Gisborne ..	4	4·50	4·50	5·50
Napier ..	4·50	4·50	4·67	5
Dannevirke ..	4·50	4·50	4·75	5
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6
Wanganui ..	4	5	4	4·50
Taihape ..	5	5	5	5
Palmerston N.	4	4	4	4·75
Masterton ..	4·25	4·25	4·25	5
Blenheim ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	5·25
Nelson ..	5	5	5	5
Greymouth ..	5·25	6·50	7	7
Ashburton ..	5	5	5	5
Timaru ..	4·75	4·75	4·50	5·50
Oamaru ..	4·50	4·50	4·75	5·50
Alexandra ..	5·50	5·50	6	5
Gore ..	5·50	5·75	5·75	6
Invercargill ..	5	5	5·25	5·25

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
MUTTON (LOIN), PER 1 LB.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	6·50
Wellington ..	5·75	5·75	5·75	6
Christchurch ..	5	5	6	6
Dunedin ..	5	5	6·50	5·50
Whangarei ..	5	5·50	5·50	6
Hamilton ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	7
Rotorua ..	6·75	6·75	6	6
Waihi ..	6	6	6	6
Gisborne ..	5	5	5	6
Napier ..	5	5	5·33	6·67
Dannevirke ..	5	5	5·50	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	7
Wanganui ..	5	5·50	5	5
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5	5	5	4·75
Masterton ..	6	6	6	6
Blenheim ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6·25
Nelson ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Greymouth ..	6	7	7·50	7·50
Ashburton ..	5	5	5	5·25
Timaru ..	5	5	5	6
Oamaru ..	5·25	5·25	5·75	6
Alexandra ..	5·50	5·50	6	6
Gore ..	5·75	6	6	6·50
Invercargill ..	5	5	5·50	6
MUTTON (NECK), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	4·50
Wellington ..	4	4	4	4
Christchurch ..	3	3	4	4
Dunedin ..	4	4	4·75	4·75
Whangarei ..	4	4·50	4·50	5
Hamilton ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	6
Rotorua ..	5	5	5	5
Waihi ..	5	5	5	5
Gisborne ..	3	3·50	3·50	3·50
Napier ..	4	4	4	4·33
Dannevirke ..	4	4	4·25	4·50
New Plymouth	4·50	4·50	4·50	5
Wanganui ..	4	4·50	4	4·25
Taihape ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	4·50
Palmerston N.	4	4	4	4·25
Masterton ..	5	5	4·75	4
Blenheim ..	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·25
Nelson ..	4·50	4·50	4·50	4·50
Greymouth ..	5	6	5·75	6
Ashburton ..	3·75	3·75	3·75	4
Timaru ..	3·50	3·50	3·75	4
Oamaru ..	4·25	4·25	4·75	5·25
Alexandra ..	5	5	5·50	5·50
Gore ..	5	5·25	5·25	5·75
Invercargill ..	4	6	4·50	5
MUTTON (CHOPS), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	8	8	8	7·92
Wellington ..	7	7	7	7
Christchurch ..	5	5	7	7
Dunedin ..	5	5	6	6
Whangarei ..	6	6·50	6·50	7
Hamilton ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	8
Rotorua ..	6	6	7	7
Waihi ..	7	7	7	7
Gisborne ..	5	5·50	5·50	7
Napier ..	6	6	6·33	7
Dannevirke ..	6	6	6·50	7
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8
Wanganui ..	6	7	6	6
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5·25	5·25	5·25	6·25
Masterton ..	6	6	6	6·75
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6·50
Nelson ..	6	6	6	6
Greymouth ..	6	7·25	7·75	8
Ashburton ..	5·75	5·75	6·25	6·75
Timaru ..	6	6	6	7
Oamaru ..	6	6	6·25	6·50
Alexandra ..	6	6	6	6
Gore ..	6·75	7	7	7
Invercargill ..	6	8	6·25	6·50

APPENDIX B.—QUARTERLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES, ETC., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
PORK (LEG), PER 1 LB.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	8	8	8	7
Wellington ..	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·50
Christchurch ..	7	7	9	9
Dunedin ..	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25
Whangarei ..	7	7	7	7
Hamilton ..	7	7	7	7·75
Rotorua ..	5	5	7	7·50
Waihi ..	7	7	7	7
Gisborne ..	8	8	8	8
Napier ..	8·50	8·50	8·67	9
Dannevirke ..	6	6	7·75	7·50
New Plymouth	7·50	7·50	7·50	8
Wanganui ..	8	9	8	8
Taihape ..	8	8	8	8
Palmerston N.	7	7	7	7
Masterton ..	4	4	5	7·25
Blenheim ..	7	7	7	7·50
Nelson ..	7·50	7·50	7·50	7·50
Greymouth ..	8	8	8	8
Ashburton ..	7·75	7·75	7·75	8
Timaru ..	8	8	7·75	8
Oamaru ..	7·50	7·50	8	8
Alexandra ..	7	7	7	7
Gore ..	8	8	8	8
Invercargill ..	8	8	7·75	8
PORK (LOIN), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	9	9	9	8
Wellington ..	8·50	8·50	8·50	9
Christchurch ..	7	7	10	10
Dunedin ..	8·50	8·50	8·25	8·25
Whangarei ..	7	7	7	7
Hamilton ..	7	7	7	7·75
Rotorua ..	7	7	7	7·50
Waihi ..	7	7	7	7
Gisborne ..	8	8	8	8
Napier ..	8	8	8·33	9
Dannevirke ..	6	6	6·75	7·50
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8
Wanganui ..	8	9	8	8
Taihape ..	8	8	8	8
Palmerston N.	7·50	7·50	7·50	8
Masterton ..	6·50	6·50	6·75	7·25
Blenheim ..	7	7	7	7·50
Nelson ..	7·50	7·50	7·50	7·50
Greymouth ..	8	8	8	8
Ashburton ..	8	8	8	8
Timaru ..	8	8	8	8
Oamaru ..	7·50	7·50	8	7·50
Alexandra ..	7	7	7	7
Gore ..	8	8	8	8
Invercargill ..	8	8	7·25	8
PORK (BELLY), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	9	9	9	8
Wellington ..	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·50
Christchurch ..	8	8	9	9
Dunedin ..	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25
Whangarei ..	7	7	7	7
Hamilton ..	7	7	7	7·75
Rotorua ..	7·50	7·50	7	7·50
Waihi ..	7	7	7	7
Gisborne ..	7·50	7·50	7·50	7·50
Napier ..	7·50	7·50	8	9
Dannevirke ..	6	6	8	7·50
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8
Wanganui ..	8	9	8	8
Taihape ..	8	8	8	8
Palmerston N.	7·50	7·50	7·50	8
Masterton ..	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·75
Blenheim ..	7	7	7	7·50
Nelson ..	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·50
Greymouth ..	6·25	7·50	7·50	8
Ashburton ..	7·75	7·75	7·75	8
Timaru ..	7·75	7·75	7·50	7·75
Oamaru ..	6·50	6·50	7·50	7·50
Alexandra ..	7	7	7	8
Gore ..	8	8	8	8
Invercargill ..	7	7	7	7·75

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
PORK (CHOPS), PER 1 LB.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	10	10	10	9
Wellington ..	9·75	9·75	9·75	9·50
Christchurch ..	8	8	10	10
Dunedin ..	9	9	8·50	8·50
Whangarei ..	7	7	7	7
Hamilton ..	8	8	8	8·75
Rotorua ..	7·50	7·50	7·25	8
Waihi ..	7·50	7·50	7·50	7·50
Gisborne ..	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50
Napier ..	8·50	8·50	8·67	9
Dannevirke ..	7	7	7·75	8
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8
Wanganui ..	8	9	8	8
Taihape ..	8	8	8	8
Palmerston N.	8	8	8	8
Masterton ..	7·25	7·25	7·50	7·75
Blenheim ..	7·50	7·50	7·50	8
Nelson ..	8	8	8	8·50
Greymouth ..	8	8·50	9	9
Ashburton ..	8	8	8	9
Timaru ..	8	8	8	8
Oamaru ..	8	8	8	8·50
Alexandra ..	7	7	7	9
Gore ..	8·75	8·75	8·25	9
Invercargill ..	8	8	8	8
TRIPE, PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	7	7	7	7·67
Wellington ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	6
Christchurch ..	6	7	6	6
Dunedin ..	6·50	6·50	6·75	6·75
Whangarei ..	6	6	6	7
Hamilton ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	7
Rotorua ..	6	6	6	6
Waihi ..	6	6	6	6
Gisborne ..	6	6	6	6
Napier ..	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke ..	6	6	6	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6
Wanganui ..	5	6	6	6
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	5·75	5·75	5·75	6
Masterton ..	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75
Blenheim ..	6·50	6·50	6·50	6
Nelson ..	6	6	6	6
Greymouth ..	6	6·25	6·50	6·25
Ashburton ..	7	7	7	7
Timaru ..	6	6	6	8
Oamaru ..	6	6	6	6
Alexandra ..	7	7	7	8
Gore ..	6·75	6·75	6·50	7
Invercargill ..	6	6	6·25	7·50
SAUSAGES (BEEF), PER 1 LB.				
Auckland ..	6	6	6	6
Wellington ..	4·75	4·75	4·75	5
Christchurch ..	4	4	4	4
Dunedin ..	4	4	4·25	4·25
Whangarei ..	5	5	5	6
Hamilton ..	5	5	5	6
Rotorua ..	8·25	8·25	4·25	5
Waihi ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5
Gisborne ..	5	5	5	5
Napier ..	5·50	5·50	6	6
Dannevirke ..	5	5	5	5
New Plymouth	5	5	5	5
Wanganui ..	6	5	5	5
Taihape ..	6	6	6	6
Palmerston N.	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·75
Masterton ..	8	8	6	4·75
Blenheim ..	4	4	4	5
Nelson ..	5·50	5·50	5·50	5·50
Greymouth ..	6	6	6	6·50
Ashburton ..	5	5	5·25	6
Timaru ..	4·75	4·75	4	5
Oamaru ..	6	6	6	6
Alexandra ..	6	6	6	6
Gore ..	6	6	6	6
Invercargill ..	6	6	6	6·75

APPENDIX B.—QUARTERLY AVERAGE RETAIL PRICES, ETC., 1914—*continued.*

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
SAUSAGES (PORK), PER 1 LB.				
	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland ..	7	7	7	7·66
Wellington ..	7	7	7	8
Christchurch ..	7	7	6	6
Dunedin ..	5·75	5·75	5·50	5·50
Whangarei ..	7	7	7	6
Hamilton ..	7	7	7	8
Rotorua ..	7·50	7·50	7·25	8
Waihi ..	7	7	7	7
Gisborne ..	7	7·50	7·50	7·50
Napier ..	9·50	9·50	9·33	9
Dannevirke ..	8	8	8	8
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8
Wanganui ..	8	9	8	8

Towns.	First Quarter.	Second Quarter.	Third Quarter.	Fourth Quarter.
SAUSAGES (PORK) PER 1 LB.—*continued.*				
	d.	d.	d.	d.
Taihape ..	9	9	9	9
Palmerston N.	6	6	6	6
Masterton ..	7·25	7·25	6·75	6
Blenheim ..	6	6	6	6
Nelson ..	7	7	7	6·50
Greymouth ..	7·75	8	8	8·25
Ashburton ..	6·75	6·75	6·75	7·25
Timaru ..	6	6	6	7
Oamaru ..	8	8	8	8
Alexandra ..	6	6	6	6
Gore ..	8	8	8	8
Invercargill ..	7	7	6·75	7

HOUSE-RENT IN 1914.

Town.	3 Rooms or under.	4 Rooms.	5 Rooms.	6 Rooms.	7 Rooms.	8 Rooms.	9 Rooms and over.
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland	90	156	180	210	300	330	480
Wellington ..	144	194	238	288	334	405	476
Christchurch ..	102	154·5	193·5	217·5	264	303	360
Dunedin	90	120	174	252	306	312	390
Whangarei ..	87	126	153	180	228	240	270
Hamilton	108	132	168	216	252	300	360
Rotorua	108	150	186	224	261	285	..
Waihi	54	84	105	144	174	186	240
Gisborne	105	159	192	228	254·5	284·5	318
Napier	60	168	228	252	300	324	360
Dannevirke ..	72	96	120	144	168	210	270
New Plymouth ..	90	132	177	180	228	270	300
Wanganui ..	84	120	168	192	240	270	330
Taihape	120	168	204	240	..	..	..
Palmerston North ..	94	128	152	160	210	270	310
Masterton	74	110	131	166	204	228	300
Blenheim	72	96	126	171	195	240	276
Nelson	87	112	150	191	218	252	300
Greymouth ..	77	102·5	120	149	185	216	255
Ashburton.. ..	93	111	141	150	174	204	240
Timaru	101	152	177	220	245	272	302
Oamaru	54	117	168	204	240	255	300
Alexandra	72	90	126	138	120	..	..
Gore	90	102	138	164	210	240	300
Invercargill ..	90	135	177	222	300	330	360

APPENDIX C.

Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities in Twenty-five Towns of New Zealand from July, 1914, to August, 1915.

Towns.	1914. July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1915. Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Bread, per 2 lb. loaf.														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Auckland	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wellington	3·5	3·5	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Christchurch	4	4	4	4	4	4	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4·75
Dunedin	3·5	3·5	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Whangarei	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Hamilton	4	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rotorua	4·5	4	4·5	4·25	4	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Waihi	4	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Gisborne	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Napier	4	4	4	4	5	4·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Dannevirke	4	4	4	4	4	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
New Plymouth	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wanganui	3·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5
Taihape	4	4	4	4	4·5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6
Palmerston North	3	3	4	4·5	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5
Masterton	3·5	3·5	3·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5
Blenheim	3·5	4	4·5	4	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Nelson	4	4	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Greymouth	4	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4·5
Ashburton	3	4	4	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5
Timaru	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4·5	4·5
Oamaru	4	4	4	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	5	5	4·5	4·5	4·75	4·5
Alexandra	4·5	4·5	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Gore	3·5	3·5	3·5	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Invercargill	3·5	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Flour, per 25 lb.														
Auckland	40	48	46·5	47·5	51·75	51·5	54	62·75	63·5	63·75	63·75	63·75	63	59·25
Wellington	36	45	48	49·25	49	53	57·5	60	65·4	65·5	61·67	59·67	59·67	56·17
Christchurch	39	45·75	46·25	48	48·5	48	53·25	60	62·4	61·25	59·1	61·5	60·25	56·5
Dunedin	39	45	47·5	48	51·5	51·75	54	57·25	59·5	60	60	60	58·86	54·43
Whangarei	39·75	45	45·75	46·5	50	51	53·5	49·25	63	62·25	63	63	63	59·5
Hamilton	45	46	46	51	52	56	57	62	65	66	65	65	66	60
Rotorua	42	48	48·75	48·75	54	57	58	61·5	64·5	66	66·75	67·5	66·75	65·25
Waihi	42	44	46·5	47·75	51	51·5	55·5	59·25	62·5	63	62	63	63	59·67
Gisborne	42·5	46·25	48	50	46	52	59·5	62	65·5	66	65·8	65	64·8	61
Napier	43	48	50·5	51	51	57·75	63·75	66	67·5	67	67·5	67·5	67·5	62·25
Dannevirke	40	45·5	50	50	51·5	53	62	62	65	65	65	65	62	60

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914. July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1915. Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Flour, per 25 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
New Plymouth	45	42	48	50	51	52·5	60	60	63	64·5	63	60	60	61·5
Wanganui	37	42	46	47	49	54	58	60	64	65	65	65	64	57
Taihape	45	51	51	51	54	66	66	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
Palmerston North	46	46	49·25	51·5	52·25	58	62·25	62·75	62·25	64	62	62·67	62·67	60·67
Masterton	45	49	51·5	51·5	51·5	53·5	57	61	64·2	66	64·8	64·8	64·8	62·8
Blenheim	48	52·5	55·5	55·5	55·5	55·5	60	60	60	60	63	63	63	63
Nelson	42	45	48·5	50	52·5	57	57	61·5	63	63	63	64·5	64·5	58·5
Greymouth	45	48·75	49·5	49·5	51·75	54	60·75	61·5	67·5	67·5	69	68·25	68·25	63
Ashburton	37	44·75	49·75	49	49	49	56·75	61·5	62·5	63	63	63	59·5	57·33
Timaru	38	42	44	47·25	48	50	58	60	63	61	60	59	57	54
Oamaru	39	45	48	48	48	48	54	57	63	63	63	63	60	57
Alexandra	42	43·5	46·5	49·5	51	54	64·5	64·5	69	69	69	69	67·5	64·5
Gore	45·75	48	52	53·5	58·25	57·5	66·75	70·25	72	67·8	66	66	64·8	63·6
Invercargill	45	49·5	51	51	55·5	57	60	64·5	58·5	60	60	60	60	57
Oatmeal, per 1 lb.														
Auckland	2·4	2·4	2·33	2·33	2·33	2·33	2	2	2·43	2·36	3·14	3·14	3·14	3·14
Wellington	2	2·28	2·25	2·18	2·25	2·21	2·43	2·72	2·89	2·97	2·79	3·31	3·1	3·09
Christchurch	2·14	2·25	2·25	2·22	2·25	2·25	2·5	3	3	2·93	3	3·15	3·12	3·12
Dunedin	1·71	2·11	2·21	2·5	2·21	2·29	2·43	2·64	2·6	2·76	2·89	2·89	2·91	2·87
Whangarei	2·32	2·46	2·11	2·14	2·32	2·14	2·25	2·29	2·52	2·55	2·87	3·07	3·07	3·11
Hamilton	2·29	2·43	2·36	2·36	2·29	2·29	2·43	2·64	2·57	2·71	3·05	3·1	3·07	3·1
Rotorna	1·71	1·86	1·96	2·14	1·96	2·61	1·14	2·39	2·79	2·5	3	2·94	2·98	3·1
Waihi	2·14	2·29	2·39	1·86	2·14	2·21	2·11	2·29	2·29	2·71	3	3·09	3·13	3·13
Gisborne	2·29	2·32	2·11	2·14	2·5	2·18	2·71	2·93	3·07	3·07	3·17	3·14	3·21	3·21
Napier	2·14	2	2·21	2·14	2·25	2·36	2·71	2·71	3·29	3·57	3·57	3·57	3·57	3·21
Dannevirke	2·57	2·43	2·57	2·71	3	3	3	3·43	3·43	3·43	3·43	3·43	3·57	3·43
New Plymouth	2·29	2·07	2·14	1·79	2·14	2·43	2·57	3	3	2·79	2·57	2·64	2·79	3
Wanganui	1·96	1·96	2	2·18	2·29	2·39	2·54	2·82	2·76	2·9	2·90	2·95	3·14	3·14
Taihape	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3·86	4	4	4	4	4	4
Palmerston North	2·18	2·17	2·61	2·5	2·61	2·61	3	3	3	3·05	3	3	3	3·05
Masterton	2	2·36	2·46	2·39	2·39	2	2·14	2·71	2·97	2·97	3·19	3·27	3·34	3·37
Blenheim	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Nelson	2	2·32	2·21	2·25	2·21	2·21	2·57	2·93	2·93	2·79	2·5	3	3	3
Greymouth	2·11	2·07	2·11	2·11	2·21	2·21	2·79	2·89	3	3	3	3·29	3·29	3·21
Ashburton	2·14	2·14	2·25	2·29	1·93	1·93	2·14	3·43	3·43	3·43	3·43	3·43	2·43	3·29
Timaru	1·14	1·96	1·86	2·14	2	2·29	2·71	3	2·71	2·71	3	3	3	3
Oamaru	1·86	2·21	2·5	2·29	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·93	3	3	3	3	3·21	3
Alexandra	2·34	2·64	2·64	2·5	3	2·5	3	3	3	3	3	3·11	3·11	3·43
Gore	2·29	2·21	2·39	1·96	2·5	2·39	2·57	2·96	2·91	3	3·17	3·17	3·17	3·43
Invercargill	2·29	2·21	2·43	2·43	2·57	2·57	2·71	2·93	2·93	2·93	2·92	3	3	3

RICE, PER 1 LB.

Auckland	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·37	2·37	2·37	2·5	2·5	2·37	2·37	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·33
Wellington	2	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·25	2·5	2·75	2·5	2·4	2·33	2·33	2·33	2·33	2·33
Christchurch	3	3	3	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·16	2·1	2·42	2·42	2·42
Dunedin	2	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·57	2·5	2·57	2·5
Whangarei	2·5	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·62	2·62	2·62	2·62	2·62	2·75
Hamilton	2·75	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·83	2·67	2·83	2·83
Rotorua	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	3	3	3	3	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·75
Waihi	2·5	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	3	3	2·75	2·83	2·83	2·83	2·83	2·83	2·83
Gisborne	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·67	2·75	2·8	2·67	2·75	2·75
Napier	2·5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Dannevirke	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75
New Plymouth	2·5	2·75	2·5	2	2	2·5	2	3	2·5	2·75	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·5
Wanganui	3·25	3·25	3·25	3·25	3	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·67	2·67	2·67	2·5	2·67
Taihape	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Palmerston North	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	3	2·75	3	3	2·87	2·83	2·72	2·83	2·83	2·83
Masterton	2·5	3	3	3·25	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Blenheim	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Nelson	3	2·75	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Greymouth	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3·25	3	3	3	3	3
Ashburton	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5
Timaru	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·75	2	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·33	2·5	2·17	2·33	2·42
Oamaru	2·5	2·75	2·75	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Alexandra	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75
Gore	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Invercargill	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·25	2·25	2·25	2·25	2·25	2·25

SAGO, PER 1 LB.

Auckland	2	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5
Wellington	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·25	2·5	2·25	2·25	2·4	2·42	2·42	2·5	2·5	2·58
Christchurch	3	3	3	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2	2	2·33	2·42	2·5
Dunedin	2	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·57	2·57	2·57	2·5
Whangarei	2·25	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·62	2·67	2·62	2·62	2·83	3
Hamilton	2·5	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·67	2·67	2·83	2·83
Rotorua	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	3	3	3	3	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·87
Waihi	2·5	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	3	3	2·75	2·67	2·83	2·83	2·83	2·83	2·83
Gisborne	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·67	2·75	2·8	2·75	2·83	2·83
Napier	2·75	3	3	3·25	3	3	3	3	3·12	3	3·12	3·25	3·25	3·25
Dannevirke	3	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	3	3	3
New Plymouth	2·5	2·75	2·5	2	2	2·5	2	3	2·5	2·5	2	2·75	2·75	2·75
Wanganui	2·25	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·75	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5
Taihape	3	3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Palmerston North	2·87	2·87	3	2·75	3	3	3	3	2·87	2·83	2·72	2·83	2·83	2·85
Masterton	2·5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Blenheim	3	3	3	3		3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Sago, per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Nelson	3	3·12	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·87	2·87	3	3	3
Greymouth	3	3	3	3·25	3·25	3·25	3·25	3	3·25	3·25	3·33	3·25	3·5	3·5
Ashburton	2	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·67
Timaru	2	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·33	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5
Oamaru	2·5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Alexandra	3·25	3·25	3·5	3·5	4	3·5	3·5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Gore	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Invercargill	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·25	2·25	2·25	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·5
Tapioca, per 1 lb.														
Auckland	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·37	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·62
Wellington	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·25	2·5	2·25	2·5	2·4	2·42	2·42	2·5	2·5	2·58
Christchurch	3	3	3	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·25	2·1	2·33	2·42	2·5
Dunedin	2	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·58	2·5	2·57	2·57	2·57	2·5
Whangarei	2·25	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·62	2·67	2·62	2·62	2·67	3
Hamilton	2·5	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·67	2·67	2·83	2·83
Rotorua	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	3	3	3	3	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·87	2·87
Waihi	2·5	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	3	3	2·75	2·67	2·83	2·83	2·83	2·83	2·83
Gisborne	3	3	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·67	2·75	2·8	2·75	2·83	2·83
Napier	2·75	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3·25	3·25	3·25
Dannevirke	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2·75	2·75	3	2·75	2·75
New Plymouth	2·5	2·75	2·5	2	2	2·5	2	3	2·5	2·5	2	2·75	2·75	2·75
Wanganui	2·25	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·67	2·5	2·5	2·58	2·5	2·58
Taihape	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Palmerston North	2·87	2·87	3	2·75	3	3	3	3	2·87	2·83	2·72	2·83	2·83	2·83
Masterton	2·5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Blenheim	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Nelson	3	3·12	3	3	3	3	2·75	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Greymouth	3	3	3	3·25	3·25	3·25	3·25	3	3·25	3·25	3·33	3·25	3·5	3·5
Ashburton	2	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·67
Timaru	2	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·33	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5
Oamaru	2·5	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Alexandra	3·25	3·25	3·5	3·5	4	3·5	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Gore	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
Invercargill	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·75	2·25	2·25	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·5	2·5

TEA, PER 1 LB.

Auckland	18	18	17	17	17	17	16·75	17	17	17·5	17	17·5	17·5	18
Wellington	20	19·5	19·75	20	19·75	20·75	19·75	20·5	20·4	20	20	20	20·33	20·33
Christchurch	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	19	18·8	19	19	19·33
Dunedin	20	21	21·5	19·25	19·75	19·75	20·5	19·5	19·33	19·71	20·29	21·33	20·86	20·57
Whangarei	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18·5	19·5	20	20	20	20
Hamilton	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18·67	18·67	19·33	19·33
Rotorua	20	19·5	19·5	19·5	19·5	19·25	19·25	19	20·5	20·5	20·5	20	20	20
Waihi	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18·67	18·67	18·67	18·67	19·33	19·33
Gisborne	18·5	18·5	20	19·75	19·75	20	20·75	20	19·58	20·67	21·2	20·67	20·67	20·67
Napier	22·5	22·5	22·5	23	23	23	23	24	23	24	23	23	23	23
Dannevirke	22	21·5	21·5	21·5	20	20	20	20	20	20·5	21	20·5	20·5	21·5
New Plymouth	24	19·5	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	19	19	19
Wanganui	18·25	18·25	18·25	17·25	17·25	18·25	18·25	18·25	18·33	18·33	19	19	19·67	20·33
Taihape	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	26	26	26	24	24
Palmerston North	19	19	20·5	20·25	19·75	18	17	18	18	18	17·5	19·33	20	17·67
Masterton	24	22·5	22·5	23	23	22·75	23	22	20·4	22·8	22·8	23·2	22·8	22·8
Blenheim	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	22
Nelson	16	20·83	20·25	20·75	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	21	21	21
Greymouth	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18·75	18·75	18·75
Ashburton	18·75	18·75	18·75	18·75	18·75	18·75	18·75	18·75	18·67	18·67	18·67	18·67	18·67	19·33
Timaru	18	18	16	18	18	18	18	18	18	18	18·67	18·67	18·67	18·67
Oamaru	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Alexandra	20	20	20	20	18	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	22
Gore	19	18·25	18·25	18·75	18·75	18·75	19	18·75	18·8	18·8	19·2	19·2	19·2	18·4
Invercargill	18	20	20·5	20·5	20·5	20	20	20	20	21	21	21	21	21

COFFEE, PER 1 LB.

Auckland	20	20	19·5	19·5	19·5	19	18·75	19	19	19	19	19	19	19
Wellington	18	20·75	19·75	19·5	20	20	19·75	19·5	19·6	19·67	19·67	19·33	19·33	19·33
Christchurch	18	20	20	19·5	19·25	19·25	19·25	20	19·2	19·33	19·5	19·4	19	19·5
Dunedin	20	19·25	21·5	19·5	19·5	19·75	20	19·75	19·33	19·71	19·71	19·71	19·71	19·71
Whangarei	19·25	19·75	19·75	19·25	18·75	19·25	19·25	19·25	19·25	19·25	19·25	19·25	19·25	19·25
Hamilton	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17	17·33	17·33	17·33	17·33
Rotorua	20	19·5	19·5	19·5	19·5	19·25	19·25	19·5	18·5	19	18·5	18·5	19	19
Waihi	20	18·75	18·75	18·75	18·75	19·25	18·75	20	19·33	20	19·33	19·33	20	20
Gisborne	21·25	21·25	21·75	21·75	21·75	21·75	22	22	21·33	21·83	22·4	22	22·5	22
Napier	22	19·5	22	23	22	22	22	22	22	21	22	21·25	21·25	21·25
Dannevirke	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22	22
New Plymouth	20	20·5	20	20	20	20·5	20	21	20·5	20·5	20	20·5	20·5	20·5
Wanganui	21	21	20·75	20	20·75	20·75	21	21	21	21	21	21	22·33	21·33
Taihape	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Palmerston North	22·75	22·75	22	23	21·75	22	20·25	22·25	21·75	22·33	21·25	22·67	22·33	22·67
Masterton	20	21	20·75	22·25	22·25	20·5	20·25	20·25	20	19·8	20·4	22·8	20·4	20·4
Blenheim	22	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	21	20·5
Nelson	21	20·17	20·25	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914. July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1915. Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Coffee, per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	19	17·25	20	19	19·5	19·5	19·5	19·5	19·5	19·5	20	18·75	18·75	19·5
Ashburton	22·75	22·75	22·75	21	22·75	22·25	22·25	21	22·33	22·33	22·33	22·33	22·33	20·67
Timaru	20·25	20·25	20·25	19·25	19·25	20	20	20	20	20	20	19·33	19·33	22
Oamaru	21	21	21	23	22	21·5	21·5	21	22	22	22	22	22	22
Alexandra	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24	24
Gore	20·5	20·75	20·75	20·5	21	20·75	21	20·5	20·8	20·8	21	20·8	20·8	21
Invercargill	21	20·5	20	20·5	20·5	20·5	20·5	20·5	20·5	20	20	20	20	20·5
Cocoa, per ¼ lb.														
Auckland	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·62	9·37	9·37	9·37	9·37
Wellington	11	11	11	11·5	11·25	11·25	11	11	11·6	10·75	10·75	11·4	11·4	11·33
Christchurch	11	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	12	11·6	11·67	11·8	11·67	11·67	10·83
Dunedin	11	11	10·75	10·75	10·75	11	11·25	11	10·83	10·71	10·71	10·71	10·71	10·57
Whangarei	11	10·75	11·25	11	11	11·25	11	11·25	11·25	11·25	11	11	11	11·5
Hamilton	11	11·5	10	10	9	10	10	10	10	10	10·67	10·67	11	11·67
Rotorua	11	11	11·25	12	11·75	12	12	11·75	12	12	12	12	12	12
Waihi	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11·33	11	11	11	11	11
Gisborne	10·5	10·5	11·5	11·5	11	11·25	11·75	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·6	11·5	11·33	11·33
Napier	11	11	11	11	11	11	11·5	11·25	11·75	11·33	11·5	11·75	11·50	11·5
Dannevirke	10	10·5	11	11	11	11	11	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11
New Plymouth	10	11·5	12	11	11	11·5	10	12	11	11·5	10	10·5	10·5	10·5
Wanganui	11	10·75	10·75	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	10·33	11
Taihape	11	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Palmerston North	11·5	11·5	11·5	11	10·25	10·75	10·25	11	9·75	10	10·25	10	9·67	10
Masterton	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	12	11·20	11	11	11	11	11·2
Blenheim	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5
Nelson	10	11·25	11	11·5	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	16·75
Greymouth	11·75	10·5	12	12·5	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Ashburton	10·75	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·33
Timaru	11	11·25	12·25	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·67	11·33	11·67	10·33	11·33	11
Oamaru	11	11	11	11	11	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	12	11·5	12	12	12
Alexandra	11	11	11	11	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	12
Gore	10·25	10·25	9·75	10·25	10·75	10·75	11	10·5	10·6	10·8	11·2	11	11	11
Invercargill	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11

SUGAR, PER 56 LB.

Auckland	102	102	111	115·5	129	135	135	134·5	134·25	134·25	135	135	141	141
Wellington	102	112·75	125·5	130·75	130	134	136	135	135·6	135·5	138	144	149	146·5
Christchurch	126	126	135	135	148	150	150	150	150	140	148	150	150	150
Dunedin	109·5	110·5	116·5	123	135·75	135	139·25	139·75	139·5	138·43	139·29	140·14	144·42	144·43
Whangarei	106·5	105·75	110·25	116·25	127	132	138	138	138	138	138	138	144	144
Hamilton	115·5	114	123	129	135	139·5	144	144	144	142·5	145	148	151	150
Rotorua	138	135	137·25	141·75	140·25	156	162	162	162	162	162	162	167·25	165·75
Waihi	108	111	114	121	131	133	137·5	138	138	138	139	139	145	144
Gisborne	112·25	112·25	114	119	134·5	141	141	141	141	141	140	141·5	144·5	142
Napier	119	120	127·5	129	143·25	147·25	148·5	149	148·5	149	148·5	148·5	151	151·5
Dannevirke	132	130·5	130·5	133·5	148·5	151·5	160·5	160·5	150·5	154·5	154·5	154·5	160·5	160·5
New Plymouth	114	106·5	114	120	126	127·5	135	132	135	133·5	135	133·5	133·5	141
Wanganui	105	106	112	116	129	136	136	136	136	136	137	137	142	142
Taihape	126	138	138	138	150	156	156	156	156	156	156	156	162	162
Palmerston North	115·5	115·5	118·5	124	133·5	143	141	141·75	141	141	144	148	148	150
Masterton	126	126	128	130·5	141	141·5	155	156	156	156	156	157·2	161·4	160
Blenheim	120	121·5	133·5	133·5	144	147	147	117	147	147	147	153	153	153
Nelson	129	121·5	122·5	129	135	144	145·5	145·5	145·5	145·5	148·5	156	156	154·5
Greymouth	120	120	120·75	129	138	147	148·5	150	150	150	150	150	153	153
Ashburton	133·75	113·75	122	128	142	146	146	148	148	148	148	148	150	154
Timaru	116	117	121	127	140	145	149	149	149	146	146	144	150	144
Oamaru	123	120	126	126	144	145	144	144	144	144	144	144	150	150
Alexandra	130·5	127·5	133·5	139·5	138	156	159	159	162	159	157·5	162	162	162
Gore	123	118	123·5	127·75	130·75	136·75	151·25	148·75	148·8	148·8	148·8	148·8	154·8	153·6
Invercargill	114	115·5	121·5	127·5	139·5	142·5	142·5	141·5	139·5	139·5	139·5	139·5	145·5	145·5

SALT, PER 1 LB.

Auckland	0·5	0·5	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·75	1	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·75
Wellington	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Christchurch	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dunedin	1	0·75	1	0·75	0·75	1	1	1	0·92	0·93	0·89	0·89	0·89	0·93
Whangarei	1	1	1	1	0·75	1	1	1	0·94	0·94	0·96	0·94	0·94	1
Hamilton	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Rotorua	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Waihi	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Gisborne	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Napier	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dannevirke	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
New Plymouth	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Wanganui	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0·92	1	0·92
Taihape	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Palmerston North	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Masterton	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Blenheim	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Nelson	1	1·25	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Salt, per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Ashburton	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0·92	0·92	1	1	1	1
Timaru	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Oamaru	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Alexandra	1·25	1·25	1·25	1·25	1	1·25	1·25	1·25	1·25	1·25	1·25	1·25	1·25	1·25
Gore	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Invercargill	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Pepper, per ¼ lb.														
Auckland	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·25	4·25	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25
Wellington	6	4·5	4·75	5	4·75	4·75	5	4·75	5	4·83	4·83	4·83	4·83	5
Christchurch	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5
Dunedin	4·5	4·25	4·25	4	4·25	4·25	4·5	4·25	4·08	4·29	4·21	4·36	4·29	4·29
Whangarei	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·25	4	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·67	4·25	4·92
Hamilton	4·25	4·25	4·25	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4·33	4·33	4·33	5
Rotorua	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	5	4·87	4·87	4·87	4·87	4·87	5
Waihi	4	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4	4·33	4·33	4·33	4·33	4·33	4·33
Gisborne	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	5·75	5	5	5	4·83	5	5	5	5	5·08
Napier	5·75	6	5·75	5·75	5·25	5	6	5	5·81	5·17	5·87	5·87	5·87	5·62
Dannevirke	5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4	5	5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5
New Plymouth	5	4	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	4·5	5	4·5	4·5	4·5
Wanganui	4·75	4·25	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·33	4·67	4·67	4·67	4·67	4·67
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Palmerston North	5·12	5·12	5·25	5·5	5·25	5·25	5	5·25	5·25	5	4·62	4·67	4·67	5
Masterton	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4·9	5	5	4·8
Blenheim	9	4·5	4·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	6	6
Nelson	6	5·5	5·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4·5
Greymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Ashburton	4	4	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·33	4·33	4·33	4·33	4·33	4·67
Timaru	5	5	5	5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·33	5·17	5·33	5	5	5·33
Oamaru	5	5·5	5	5	5	5	5	4·75	5	5	5	5	5	5
Alexandra	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	4·75	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5
Gore	5	5	5	5	5	5	5·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Invercargill	5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4	4

Jam, per 1 lb.

Auckland	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5·12	5·12
Wellington	5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·2	5·16	5·17	5·17	5·42	5·42
Christchurch	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dunedin	6·25	6	6	5·75	6·25	6·25	6·5	6·25	6·21	6·18	6·29	6·29	6·32	6·14
Whangarei	5·5	5·5	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	6	5·87	5·87	5·87	5·87	5·87	6
Hamilton	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	6
Rotorua	5	5·5	5·5	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	6	5·75	6	6	6·12	6·12
Waihi	5	5	4·75	4·75	5	8·25	5	4·75	4·83	5	6·67	5	5	5
Gisborne	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·5	6	5·75	5·67	5·67	5·8	5·67	5·67	5·83
Napier	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke	5·5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·75	5·75	5·75
New Plymouth	6	6	6	5	5	5·5	5	6	5·5	6	6	6	6	6
Wanganui	5·25	5·25	5·75	5·75	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	5·33
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Palmerston North	5·75	5·75	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·33	5·5	5·33	5·67	5·67
Masterton	6	6	6	6	6	5·75	6	5·75	6	6	6	5·8	6	6
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Greymouth	5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Ashburton	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·87
Timaru	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·67
Oamaru	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	6	6	6	6	6
Alexandra	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·5	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6
Gore	6·25	6·25	6·5	6·5	8	8	6	6·5	6·4	6·4	6·1	6·4	6·5	6·4
Invercargill	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5·5

Honey, per 1 lb.

Auckland	5	5	5·25	5·25	5	5	5	5	5	5·25	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75
Wellington	7	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6	6·5	6	6·16	6·17	6	6·33	6·92
Christchurch	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	5·83	5·8	5·83	5·83	6·83
Dunedin	6	6	6	5·75	5·75	6·25	6	6	6	6	6·14	6·57	6·57	7·08
Whangarei	6·5	7	6·75	6·75	6·25	8·5	8·5	6·5	6·62	6·62	6·62	6·62	6·62	7·37
Hamilton	6·25	6·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6·25	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17
Rotorua	7	7·25	7·25	9·75	7·5	10·75	10·75	7·25	7·25	7·5	7·5	7·75	7·75	7·75
Waihi	6	6·75	7	9·25	6·75	7	6	6·25	6·67	6·83	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	7·25	7·25	8	7	7	7	6·25	6	6·33	6·33	7·6	6·5	6·5	6·92
Napier	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6·83	6·83	7·25
Dannevirke	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Wanganui	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·67	6·5	7·83	6·83
Taihape	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8·5	8·5	8·5
Palmerston North	6	6	6	6	5·75	6	6	6·5	6·37	7	6	6	6	7
Masterton	6	6·75	7·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·5	7	6·2	6·4	6·2	6·4	6·2	7·12
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5
Nelson	6·5	6·25	6	7·5	6	6	6	6·5	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Honey, per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6	6·67	6·5	6·25	7·5
Ashburton	4	4	4	3·75	3·75	3·75	3·75	3·75	3·75	4	4	4	4	5·33
Timaru	5	5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·67	5·67	5·67	6	6
Oamaru	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	4	5	5	5·5	5	6	6	5	5	6
Alexandra	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Gore	5·75	5·75	6	6	6·5	6	6	6	5·9	6·3	6·4	6·8	6·8	7·87
Invercargill	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	5	6	6·5
Golden Syrup, per 2 lb.														
Auckland	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·37	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·87	5·87
Wellington	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·83	6	6	6	6
Christchurch	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dunedin	6	5·5	6	6	6	5·75	6	6	5·92	5·93	5·93	5·93	5·93	5·93
Whangarei	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Hamilton	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·67
Rotorua	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·62	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·87	7
Waihi	5·5	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·83	5·83	5·83	5·83	6	6
Gisborne	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·5	6·5	6·67	6·83	7	6·83	6·83	6·83
Napier	7	7	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7	7·25	7	7	7·25	7·25	7·25
Dannevirke	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	7
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	6·5	6	7	6·5	6·5	6
Wanganui	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Taihape	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Palmerston North	6·25	6·25	6	6·5	6	6·25	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·33	6	6	6	6·33
Masterton	7	6·75	6·75	6·75	7	6·75	7	6·75	6·8	6·8	6·8	6·8	6·8	6·8
Blenheim	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Nelson	7	7·25	7·25	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·5
Greymouth	7·25	7·25	6·75	6·75	7	7	6·75	7	7·25	7	7	7	7	7
Ashburton	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67
Timaru	6	6	6·25	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67
Oamaru	6·5	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Alexandra	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Gore	7	7	6·75	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Invercargill	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·5

Treacle, per 2 lb.

Auckland	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wellington	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·83	6	6	6	6
Christchurch	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dunedin	5	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	4·92	4·93	4·93	4·93	4·93	5·07
Whangarei	5	5	5	5·25	5	5	5·5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·37	5·5	5·5
Hamilton	5·5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·67	5·67	5·67	6
Rotorua	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·37	6·5
Waihi	5	5	5·25	5	5·25	5	5·5	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·83	5·33
Gisborne	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Napier	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6	6·25	6	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·33
Dannevirke	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Wanganui	6	6	6	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Palmerston North	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Masterton	7	6·5	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·5	6·5	6·25	6·4	6·4	6·4	6·4	6·4	6·4
Blenheim	7	7	7	7	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Nelson	6	6·5	7·25	6·75	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Greymouth	6·75	6·5	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·33	6·25	6·33	6	6·25	6·25
Ashburton	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Timaru	5·75	5·75	6	5·75	6	6	6	6	5·83	5·67	5·67	5·67	5·67	5·67
Oamaru	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Alexandra	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·75	6·75
Gore	6	6	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Invercargill	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	6·75	5·75

Raisins, per 1 lb.

Auckland	4	5	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6·25	6	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6
Wellington	6	6	6·25	6·25	6	6·25	6	6·25	6·1	6·08	6·08	6·08	6·08	6·08
Christchurch	6·75	6·75	7	6·5	6·75	7	7	7	7	6·5	6·6	6·33	6·25	5·92
Dunedin	5	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·5	5·75	5·75	5·5	5·42	5·5	5·57	5·57	5·57	5·63
Whangarei	5·5	6	6·25	6·25	6	6·75	6·5	6·5	6·62	6·87	6·87	6·62	6·62	6·62
Hamilton	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	7·5	6·5	6	6	6	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33
Rotorua	6	6	6	6·75	6·75	7	7	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25
Waihi	6	5·75	6	6	6	7	6·75	6·5	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·67	6·33	6·33
Gisborne	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6·25	6·25	6·17	6·2	6·4	6·33	6·33	6·33
Napier	6	6·5	7·5	7·5	6·25	8	8	8	8	7·33	8	7·67	7·67	6·33
Dannevirke	5·5	5·5	6	6	6·25	6	6	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25
New Plymouth	4	6	6	5	5	6	5	7	6·5	6·5	6	6·5	6·5	6
Wanganui	5	5	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Taihape	6	6	6	7	7	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7
Palmerston North	5·75	5·75	6	6·5	6·25	6·75	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·67	6·5	6·38	6·33	6·33
Masterton	6	5·5	5·75	6·25	6	6	6·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·2
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Nelson	4·5	6·25	6	6·5	6	6	6·5	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6

APPENDIX C.—MONTHLY RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
RAISINS, PER 1 LB.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	5·75	6·25	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	7	6·75	7	7
Ashburton	5	5·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·33
Timaru	4·75	5	5·5	5·25	5·5	5·5	6	6	6·17	5·83	5·83	5·83	5·83	5·83
Oamaru	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·5	7	7
Alexandra	6·25	6·25	6	6·5	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	5·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·75	7	6·8	7	7·4	7·4	7
Invercargill	5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5	5·5	5	5	5	5·5	5
CURRANTS, PER 1 LB.														
Auckland	4	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	6	5·75	5·75	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·5
Wellington	4·5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5	5·5	4·2	5·33	5·17	5·5	5·5	5·5
Christchurch	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·16	5·2	5·17	5	5
Dunedin	4·25	4·5	5	5	4·75	4·5	5	4·75	4·67	4·57	4·5	4·43	4·57	4·57
Whangarei	5	5·25	6	6	6	6·25	6	6	6·12	6·12	6·12	6·12	6·12	5·87
Hamilton	4·75	5·25	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·83	5·83	5·83	5·83
Rotorua	5·5	5·75	6	6·25	6	6·25	6·75	6·25	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·75	6·75
Waihi	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·33	6	6	6	6
Gisborne	4·75	5·25	5·25	5·5	5·75	5·75	6	6	5·83	5·83	6	5·83	5·83	5·83
Napier	5	5·75	7	7	7·5	7	7	7·25	7·25	7·33	7·25	7·5	7·5	6·75
Dannevirke	4·5	5	6	6	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75
New Plymouth	5	5	5	5	5	5·5	5	6	5·5	5·5	5	5	5	5
Wanganui	4·75	5	6	5·25	5·25	5·75	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·33	5·67	5·67
Taihape	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Palmerston North	4·75	4·75	5·5	6·25	5·75	5·25	5·5	5·75	5·75	6	5·75	5·67	5·67	5·67
Masterton	5	4·75	5·5	5·75	5·75	5·5	5·75	5·25	5·4	5·4	5·4	5·4	5·4	5·4
Blenheim	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Nelson	4·5	5·62	5·5	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Greymouth	5·25	6	6·5	6·75	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·25	6·5	6·67	6·25	6·25	6
Ashburton	4	5·25	6	6	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·33	5·33	5	5	5	5·67
Timaru	4·25	4·5	5	5·25	5	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·67	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33
Oamaru	4·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·5
Alexandra	6·25	6·25	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Gore	5	5	5·25	5·25	5	5	5·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Invercargill	4	4·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·75

Apricots (Tinned), per 2½ lb.

Auckland	11	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Wellington	12	11	11·25	11·5	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·6	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·37
Christchurch	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	12	12	11·8	11·67	11·5	11·67	11·67	11·63
Dunedin	11	11·25	11·25	11	11	11	11	11	11·5	11·42	11·43	11·43	11·43	11·43
Whangarei	10·75	10·75	10·75	10·75	10·75	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Hamilton	10·5	10·5	10·25	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	11	11	11	11
Rotorua	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Waihi	12	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·5	11·25	11·25	11·5	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67
Gisborne	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	12·75	12	12	11·83	12	12	12	11·83	11·83
Napier	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Dannevirke	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5
New Plymouth	10	11	10	10	10	11	10	12	10	11	10	11	11	11
Wanganui	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·25	11·25	10·75	11·25	11·25	11·33	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·33	11·33
Taihape	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Palmerston North	12	12	11·5	12·75	12·25	12·25	12	12·5	12	12·33	12·25	13·33	13·33	12
Masterton	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Blenheim	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Nelson	12	12	11·75	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Greymouth	10·75	11	11·5	11·5	12	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·33	11·5	11·5	11·5
Ashburton	11·75	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Timaru	11·25	12·25	12·25	12	12	12	12	12·25	12·33	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67
Oamaru	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Alexandra	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Gore	11·75	11·5	11·25	11·75	11·75	11·75	12	11·75	11·8	11·8	11·8	11·8	11·8	11·8
Invercargill	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	11	11	11	11·5	11·5	11	11

Peaches (Tinned), per 2½ lb.

Auckland	11	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Wellington	12	11	11·25	11·5	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·6	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33
Christchurch	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	12	12	11·8	11·67	11·6	11·67	11·62	11·67
Dunedin	11	11	11·25	11	11	11	11	11	11·5	11·57	11·57	11·57	11·43	11·43
Whangarei	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·75	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25
Hamilton	10·5	10·5	10·25	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·67
Rotorua	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Waihi	12	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·25	11·5	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67
Gisborne	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	12	12	11·83	12	12	12	11·83	11·83
Napier	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Dannevirke	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
New Plymouth	10	11	10	10	10	11	10	12	10	11	10	11	11	11
Wanganui	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·33	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·33	11·33
Taihape	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Palmerston North	11·5	11·5	11·5	12·75	12·25	12	12	12·75	12	12·33	12·5	13·33	13·33	12
Masterton	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Blenheim	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Nelson	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Peaches (Tinned), per 2½ lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	10·75	11	11·5	11·5	12	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·33	11·5	11·5	11·5
Ashburton	11·75	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Timaru	11·25	12·25	12·25	12	12	12	12	12	12	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67
Oamaru	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Alexandra	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Gore	12	11·75	11·25	11·75	11·75	11·75	12	11·75	11·8	11·8	11·8	11·8	11·8	11·8
Invercargill	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	11	11	11	11·5	11·5	11	11
Pears (Tinned), per 2½ lb.														
Auckland	12	14	12	12	12	12	11·25	12	12	12	12	12	12	12·25
Wellington	12	11	11·25	11·5	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·6	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33
Christchurch	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	11·8	11·83	11·8	11·92	11·92	12
Dunedin	11·5	11·75	11·75	12	12	11·5	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Whangarei	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	12·25	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5
Hamilton	11·5	11·5	10·75	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67
Rotorua	13	12·75	13	13·25	13·5	13	13	13·25	13·25	13·25	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5
Waihi	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Gisborne	12	12	12	12	12	11·75	12	12·5	12·33	12·33	12·2	12·17	12·17	12·17
Napier	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	12·75	13	12·67	13	13	13	13
Dannevirke	12	12	12	12	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	12
New Plymouth	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	10	12	12	12
Wanganui	13	13	13	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·67	13	13	13	12·67	12·33
Taihape	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Palmerston North	11·5	11·5	12	12·75	13	12·75	12·5	13	12	12·33	12·75	14	14	12
Masterton	12	12	12	12	12	12	12·25	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Blenheim	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Nelson	12	12	12·5	12	12·5	12·5	12·5	12	12	12·5	12·5	12	12·5	12
Greymouth	11·25	11·5	12·25	12·5	12	12·25	12·25	12	12·5	12·25	12	12	12	12
Ashburton	11·75	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Timaru	11·75	12·75	12·75	12·25	12·25	12·25	12·25	12·25	12·33	12	11·67	12	12	12
Oamaru	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Alexandra	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	12·5	13
Gore	12	12	11·5	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Invercargill	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	11	11	11	11·5	11·5	11	11

Prunes (Dried), per 1 lb.

Auckland	5	6	5·5	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	5·75	5·75	5·25	5·25	5·5
Wellington	6	6·75	7	6·25	6·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·75	5·58	5·53
Christchurch	7·5	7·5	8	6	6	6	6	6	5·87	5·89	6	6·17	6·17	6·17
Dunedin	6	6	6·5	6·25	6	6	6·25	6·25	5·83	6	6·14	6·14	6	6·14
Whangarei	6	6	6	8	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Hamilton	5·5	5·5	6	5·5	5·5	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·67
Rotorua	6	5·75	6·25	6·25	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	7	6·5
Waihi	5	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·67	5·67	5·67	5·67
Gisborne	5·5	5·5	5·25	6·5	6·5	6·75	7	7·25	7·33	7	7·6	6·83	6·83	6
Napier	7	7·25	7·5	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·67	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·5
Dannevirke	7	6	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
New Plymouth	4	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Wanganui	6·75	6·75	7·75	6·75	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·17	5·67	6
Taihape	6	6	6	9	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	7
Palmerston North	6·5	6·5	7·25	7·25	6·75	6·75	6·75	7·25	6·75	6·67	6·5	6·67	6·67	6
Masterton	5	6	6·5	6·75	6	5·5	6·5	6	6·4	6·4	6·4	6·4	6·8	6·8
Blenheim	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7	7	7	6·5
Nelson	6	6·75	7·5	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	6·5
Greymouth	6·75	7	8	8	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·5	7·25	7·25	7	7·25	7·25	6·5
Ashburton	6	8	8	8	8	8	8	6·75	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·33
Timaru	6·5	7	7·5	7·25	7	7	7	7	7	6·5	6·5	6·17	6·17	5·83
Oamaru	6	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Alexandra	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	9	8·5	9	9	9	9	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5
Gore	6·75	7·75	7·5	7·5	8	8	7·75	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Invercargill	6	6·5	7·5	7	7	7	7	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5

Apricots (Dried), per 1 lb.

Auckland	11	11	10·5	10·75	10·75	10·5	11	10·75	10	10	10	10	10	9·75
Wellington	10	10	10·25	10	9·75	10	9·75	9·5	9·8	9·67	9	8·17	8·33	8·58
Christchurch	11·5	11·5	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11	11·6	11·5	11·4	11·67	11·67	10
Dunedin	11	11·25	11·5	11·5	10·5	10·5	10	10	10·17	9·43	9·86	9·86	9·86	9·57
Whangarei	11·75	11·25	11·25	12	10·25	11	10·75	10·75	10·75	10·75	10·25	10	10	9·75
Hamilton	11	11	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	9·67
Rotorua	12	11·75	12·5	12	12·25	12	11·75	12	12	12	12	11·75	11·5	11·25
Waihi	12	11·25	11	11	10·75	10·5	11	10·5	10·67	10·67	10·67	9·33	9·33	8·67
Gisborne	11·75	11·75	12	12	12	12	11·25	11·25	11·2	10	11·4	11·33	11·33	10·33
Napier	12	12	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·5	12	12·5	12	12	11·5	11·5	11·25
Dannevirke	12	12·5	12	12	11·5	11·5	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
New Plymouth	10	11	10	10	10	10	9	10	9·5	9	9	9	9	9·5
Wanganui	12·75	12·75	12·75	11	10·75	10·75	10·75	10	10·67	10·33	10·17	10	10	10
Taihape	12	12	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	12	12	12	12	12
Palmerston North	11·5	11·5	11·25	11	11·25	11·25	10·75	10·75	10·75	11	10·25	10	9	9
Masterton	12	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·25	11·5	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·2	11	11·4
Blenheim	10	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10
Nelson	10	12	12·25	12	12	12	12	11	11	11	11	11	11	10

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Apricots, per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	10	10	11	11·5	11·25	11·5	11·5	11·5	11	11·5	11·33	10·5	10·75	10·25
Ashburton	10	11	11	10·75	10·25	10·25	10·25	10·25	10·33	10·33	10·33	10·33	10·33	10·33
Timaru	11·75	11·75	12	12·75	13	11·25	11	11	11	10·67	10	10	10	10·33
Oamaru	11·5	13	13	12	14	12	11	11	11	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5
Alexandra	12	12	12	12	12	..	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	..
Gore	12	12	12	11·5	12	12	12	11·5	11·4	11·2	11·6	11·6	11·6	11·2
Invercargill	12	12	12	11	12	12	11·5	10	10	9	9	9	9	9·5
Potatoes, per 14 lb.														
Auckland	10	12	8·75	7·25	12	19·5	12	13·5	13·25	11·75	12	12	12·5	12·75
Wellington	12	11	11	10·75	13	24	14·75	16	14·4	15	13·42	15·33	16	16·41
Christchurch	8·5	8·5	10	8·25	6	7·5	14·5	12	9·5	10·33	10	10·5	12	12
Dunedin	8·25	9·5	7·25	6·75	8·5	14·75	22·25	19·75	12	11·43	11·57	13·29	12·86	12·29
Whangarei	10·75	11·75	9·5	12	11·5	19·25	16	14·5	14·25	13·25	13·25	13·5	15	15
Hamilton	13·5	12	12	12	13	21	15	15	13	13	13·67	14·33	14·67	14·33
Rotorua	12	12·25	12	12	16·5	21·25	19·5	18	16·5	15·25	15	15	16	15·25
Waihi	12	10·5	10·5	10	12	22·25	15·5	14·25	14·17	13·33	12·83	13·33	14·5	14·5
Gisborne	12	12	12·25	12	24·25	20·25	22	20	16·67	16	15·4	15·67	15·67	15·83
Napier	12	12	12	12	11·5	19	18	16	16·5	14·67	15	13·5	13·5	13·75
Danuevirke	12	12	12	12	12	21	14·5	14·5	14·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	14·5
New Plymouth	12	12	10	10	10	25·5	12	18	12	12	12	12	12	14·5
Wanganui	12	10·5	10	9·25	14·25	20	12·25	11	9·5	11	10·96	11·5	13·17	13
Taihape	13	13	13	12	12	28	18	18	18	15	15	15	15	15
Palmerston North	13·87	13·87	11·5	11·25	20·5	23	17·25	14·75	15·5	13	12·44	12·67	12·67	13·33
Masterton	12	14	12·25	11·5	13·5	21	20·75	16	16·1	17·8	13·4	14·25	14·8	14·4
Blenheim	9	9	9	9	9	29	24	16·5	15	15	12	12	12	12
Nelson	12	12·5	12	11	12	18	10·5	15	15	15	13·5	13·5	13	14·5
Greymouth	12	12	12	9·75	11·25	15·75	19·5	16·5	14·25	13·5	12	15	15·5	14·25
Ashburton	8·5	8·5	8·5	9	8·5	8·5	8·5	15	15	9·75	9·75	9·83	9·75	11·5
Timaru	11·5	11·5	10·25	10·25	9·75	20	12	12	11	10·3	10·08	11·25	11·5	12
Oamaru	9·5	9·5	9	6	9	42	27·5	19·5	13	11	11	12	12	12
Alexandra	12	12	12	12	12	24	34·5	24	19·5	15	15	15	15	14·5
Gore	12	12	12	11	12	20·75	22·5	21·5	14·2	12	12	12·6	12·6	13
Invercargill	12	11·5	11	10·5	12	13	19·5	16·5	12	12	12	12	12·5	12

Onions, per 1 lb.

Auckland	1·5	2	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·12	1·5	1·25	1·33	1	0·96	1·09	1·09	1·87
Wellington	1·5	1·5	2·25	2·5	2·5	2·75	2	2	1·5	1·42	1·33	1·33	1·42	1·67
Christchurch	1	1	1	2·5	2·75	2·75	2·75	1·5	1	1·5	1·58	1·58	1·58	0·62
Dunedin	1	1·25	1·75	3	3	2·75	2	1·5	1·04	0·96	1	0·91	0·96	1·07
Whangarei	1·5	1·75	2·5	2·75	3	3	2	1·75	1·44	1·37	1·25	1·44	1·5	1·87
Hamilton	2	2·25	2·75	3	3	3	2	2	1·5	1·25	1·08	1·17	1·17	1·67
Rotorua	2·25	2	2·5	3·5	3·5	4	2·75	2·75	2	1·75	1·87	1·87	2	2·62
Waihi	1·5	1·75	2·75	3·5	3·25	3	2	1·75	1·83	1·83	1·67	1·67	1·83	1·83
Gisborne	2	2	2·25	2·75	2·75	3	2·5	2·25	2·08	1·58	1·7	1·67	1·67	1·92
Napier	2	2	2·5	3·25	3·75	3·75	3	3·5	2·75	2	2·62	1·62	2·5	1·87
Dannevirke	2	1·75	2	2·75	2·75	2·75	2	1·75	1·35	1·35	1·35	1·5	1·5	1·5
New Plymouth	1	1	2	3	3	3·5	2·5	2	1	1	1	1	1	2
Wanganui	1	1	2	2·75	3	3	2	1·75	1·17	1·12	0·95	0·95	1	1·17
Taihape	2	2	2	2·5	3	3	3	2·5	2	1·5	1·5	1·5	1·5	2
Palmerston North	1·5	1·5	1·75	2·25	3	3	2·5	2·25	1·87	1·83	1·67	1·67	1·83	1·83
Masterton	2	1·75	2	2·75	3	3	2·75	2	1·9	1·8	1·5	1·4	1·5	1·6
Blenheim	2	1·75	1·75	2	2·25	2	2	2	2	2	1·75	1·75	1·75	1·75
Nelson	1	1·75	2	2·75	2·75	3	2·5	2·25	1·75	1	1	1	1·25	1·75
Greymouth	1·25	1·25	2·5	3	3·25	3	2·5	2	1·37	1·12	1·17	1·12	1·12	2
Ashburton	1	1	1·5	3·5	3·25	3·25	3·25	1·5	1·17	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·83
Timaru	1	1	1·75	2·25	3	3	2·25	1·5	0·83	0·81	0·72	1·14	0·81	0·95
Oamaru	1	1·25	2	4	3	4	2·5	2	1·25	1	1	1	1	1·5
Alexandra	2	2	2	2·5	2	4	3	2·25	2	1·75	1·75	2	2	2
Gore	1·5	1·5	2·75	3	3·5	3·25	3	2	1·05	1·1	1·15	1·15	1·15	1·5
Invercargill	1	1	1·75	3	2·75	2·5	2	1·5	0·87	0·75	0·75	0·87	0·87	1

Salmon, per 1 lb. Tin.

Auckland	12	12	11·5	11·5	11·5	11	11·25	11·5	11·5	11·5	10·75	10·75	10·75	11·25
Wellington	12	11·75	11·5	12·25	11·75	12·25	11·5	11·75	12·6	12·16	11·83	12·17	12·17	12·83
Christchurch	14	14	14	14	14	13·75	11	14	14·1	11·08	14·2	13·92	13·92	12·83
Dunedin	13	13·5	13·75	13·5	13·25	11·75	13·5	13·25	12·83	13	13	13	13	13
Whangarei	11·5	11·5	12	11	11·75	11·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·75
Hamilton	11	11	9·5	9·5	11	11	11	11·5	10·5	10·5	10·67	10·67	10·67	10·33
Rotorua	12·5	12	12	12·75	13·25	14·5	13·75	13·75	13·25	13·5	13·25	13	13·25	13·25
Waihi	12	11·25	9·75	9·75	8	9	10	12	10	11·67	10·33	11·67	10·33	11·67
Gisborne	13·25	13·25	13	13·25	13·25	13·25	12·75	12·25	12·5	12·33	12·4	12·67	12·67	12·67
Napier	13·25	13·25	13·5	13·75	13·5	13·5	13	12	13·37	13·75	14	13·75	13·75	14·75
Dannevirke	12	11	12	11	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	11
New Plymouth	10	11·25	10	10	10	11	10	10	10	10·5	10	11	11	11·5
Wanganui	12	12	13	10	12	12	11·25	11·25	12	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33
Taihape	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Palmerston North	11·5	11·5	11·75	12·75	12·5	12·75	12	12·75	12·5	12·5	11·75	13·33	13·33	11·67
Masterton	12	12	11·75	12·5	12·25	12·5	12·5	12·75	12·6	12·4	12·4	12·6	12·8	12·8
Blenheim	12	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	12	12	12	12
Nelson	13	12	12·25	12	12·5	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Salmon, per 1 lb. Tin—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	12	12	12	12	12	12	11·5	11·5	12	12	11·67	12	12	12
Ashburton	12	12·25	12·25	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13·67
Timaru	12·75	13·75	13·25	13·25	13·25	13·25	13·25	13	13	12·83	12·83	12·5	12·5	12·33
Oamaru	14	15	14	13	12	14	12	12	13	12	14	15	12	12
Alexandra	15	15	15·5	15·5	16	15·5	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Gore	13	14	15·25	14·5	14·5	14·78	14	14	14·4	14	14	14	14·4	14
Invercargill	13	13	14·5	13·5	15	15	15	13·25	13·75	13·75	14	14·25	14·25	13·75
Herrings, per 1 lb. Tin.														
Auckland	7	7	7·75	7·75	7·62	7·62	8	8	8	7·87	8	8	8	8·25
Wellington	7	7	7·25	7·5	7·25	7·75	7·25	7·25	7·4	8	7·5	7·67	7·67	8
Christchurch	7·75	7·75	8·25	8	8	7·5	7·75	8	8	7·83	7·8	8	8·17	8·17
Dunedin	7	7·25	8·25	7·5	8·25	8·5	8·25	8	7·83	8	7·86	8·43	8	8·29
Whangarei	7·25	7·25	7·25	8·5	7·75	7·75	8	8·25	8·25	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·75	8·5
Hamilton	7·25	7·25	8	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	9·5	8·5	8·5	9	9·33	9	9·33
Rotorua	9	9	9	8·5	8·5	9	8·75	8·75	9·25	9·5	9·25	9·75	9	10
Waihi	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·75	7	7	7·25	8	7·67	7·67	8	8	8	7·67
Gisborne	9	9	8	8·25	8·75	8·75	8	8	8	8·33	8·4	8·83	8	8·5
Napier	8·75	9	9	9	9	9	8·5	8	8·5	8·67	8·67	9·08	9·75	9·75
Dannevirke	10	8·5	9·5	8·5	8·5	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9	9	8·5
Wanganui	8	8	8·25	8·75	9	9	8·75	9	9·67	9·33	9·33	9	10·33	9·33
Taihape	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	12	12	12
Palmerston North	8·5	8·5	7·5	8·5	8	9	8·75	9	8·62	8·33	7·87	8]	10·33	9·33
Masterton	8	7	8·5	8·75	8·75	8·5	10·5	9	8·8	9	9·2	9·2	9·6	9·4
Blenheim	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5
Nelson	9	9	10·5	8·75	7·5	8	8	8	8	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5
Greymouth	8	8·25	9·75	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·75	8·25	8·75	8·75	8·67	8·25	8·75	8·5
Ashburton	6	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·67	7·67	7·67	7·67	7·67	7·83
Timaru	7	7	8	8·25	8·25	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·67	7·5	7·83	8·5	8·17	8·83
Oamaru	9	10·5	9·5	12	10	9	9	9·5	9·5	8·5	10	9·5	9·5	8·5
Alexandra	9	9	9·5	9·5	11	9·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8·5	9
Gore	7·5	10	10	12·25	10	10·5	10	9·5	9·4	9·4	9·2	10·6	10·4	11·25
Invercargill	7	9·5	9	8·5	9	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8

Starch, per 1 lb.

Auckland	5	6	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6·12	6·12	6	6	6	6·12
Wellington	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6	6	5·9	6·08	6·08	6·08	6·08	6·17
Christchurch	6·5	6·5	6·25	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	6·3	6·5	6·6	6·67	6·67	6
Dunedin	6	6	6·5	6	6	6	6	6	5·92	5·93	5·93	5·93	5·93	5·93
Whangarei	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·5	6	6·25	6·5	6·5	6·62	6·5	6·62	6·62	6·37	6·87
Hamilton	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6·25	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·5
Rotorua	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·75	7·25
Waihi	5·5	5·5	6	5·75	6	6	6	6·25	6·17	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33
Gisborne	6	6	6	6·25	6	6·25	6	6	6·25	6·17	6·2	6	6	6
Napier	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·33	6·25	6·25	6·25	6
Dannevirke	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5
Wanganui	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33	6	6
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Palmerston North	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6	6	6·12	6·17	6·83	6·33
Masterton	6	6	5·75	5·75	6	6	6·25	6	6·2	6·2	6·6	6·6	7·2	7
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5
Nelson	6	8·5	7·75	6·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Greymouth	6	6	7·25	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·25	6·33	7	6·5	6·75
Ashburton	6	6	6·25	6·25	6	6	6	6	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17	6
Timaru	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Oamaru	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Alexandra	7·25	7·25	7·5	7	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	8	8·5
Gore	6	6·5	6·25	6·5	6·75	6·75	7·5	7·5	7·2	7·6	7·4	7·4	7·4	7·4
Invercargill	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5

Blue, per 1 lb.

Auckland	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Wellington	9	9	9·25	9·25	9	9·25	9	9	9	9·16	9·16	9·17	9·17	9
Christchurch	10	10	9·75	9·75	9·75	9·75	10	10	10	10	10	9·83	9·83	10
Dunedin	9	9·25	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	8·86
Whangarei	9·75	10	10	9·5	10	10	10	10·25	10	10	10	10	10	10
Hamilton	10	10	10	10	10	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	10·33	10·33	10·33	10·33
Rotorua	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10·5	10·5	10	10	10·5	10·5	10·5
Waihi	10	9·25	9·75	9·75	9·75	9·75	9·75	9	9·67	9·67	9·76	9·67	9·67	9·67
Gisborne	11	11	11	11	11	11·25	11	11	11	11·17	11·6	11·17	11·17	11
Napier	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10	10·5	10	10·5	10	10·5	10·5
Dannevirke	10	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5
New Plymouth	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Wanganui	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Taihape	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Palmerston North	9·75	9·75	10	10	9·75	9·25	9·75	10	9·75	9·67	9·75	9·67	9·67	10
Masterton	11	10·5	10·5	10·25	10·5	10	10·25	10	10·2	10·2	10·2	10·2	10·2	10·2
Blenheim	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	11·5
Nelson	10	11	10·5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities.—*continued.*

Towns.	1914. July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1915. Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Blue, per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	10·75	11	12	12	12	12	12	12	11·75	11·5	11·33	11·5	12	12
Ashburton	9·75	10·25	10·75	10·75	10·75	10·75	10·75	10·75	10·67	10·67	10·67	10·67	10·67	10·67
Timaru	9·25	9·75	9·75	9·25	9·25	8·5	9	9·5	9·5	9·17	9·17	9·17	9·17	9·5
Oamaru	10	11	11	10	10	10	11	11	11	10·5	11	11	10·5	11
Alexandra	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	10	9·5	9·5	10	10·5	10	10	10	10·5	11·5
Gore	10	10·25	10·25	10·5	10·25	10·5	10·5	10	10	10·4	10·4	10·4	10·4	10·4
Invercargill	9	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5
Soap, per Bar (36 to Cwt.).														
Auckland	9	9	8	8·58	8·58	8·58	9	8	8·37	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·33
Wellington	11	10	9·75	10·25	9·5	10	9·25	9·25	10·2	9·83	9	9·33	9·33	9·67
Christchurch	8·25	8·25	9	8·25	8·5	9	8·5	9	9	8·5	8·4	8·17	8·17	8·17
Dunedin	11	8·75	9·5	9·5	10	9·75	10·25	10	9·83	8·43	10	9·65	9·59	9·46
Whangarei	8·25	8·25	8·25	9·5	7	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·67
Hamilton	11·5	11·5	10	9·5	9·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	10·5	11	11	11	10·67
Rotorua	9·5	9·75	9·75	9·75	10·25	9 5	9	10·25	10	9·25	9·75	9·75	10	10
Waihi	11	11	11	10·75	11	11	9	6·33	6·33	9	8·67	8·67	8·67	11·33
Gisborne	10	10	10	10	10·25	10·25	10	10	9·67	10	10·2	10·17	9·67	9·67
Napier	9·5	9·5	9·75	9·75	9·75	9·75	9·25	10·25	10	10·67	10	10·03	10·03	9·53
Dannevirke	9	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	10	10	10	10
New Plymouth	10	8	10	10	10	9·5	10	8	9·5	8	10	9·5	9·5	9·5
Wanganui	8·25	8·25	8·75	8·75	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·33	10	8
Taihape	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	12
Palmerston North	9·5	9·5	9·25	10	9·5	8·25	9·75	9·75	9·75	10	9·75	10·5	9·67	10
Masterton	8·5	9	10·25	10·75	10	9·5	9·25	8·75	9·2	9·2	9·2	9·2	9·2	8·6
Blenheim	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Nelson	11	8·67	9·75	8·75	8·75	8·5	9	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8	9	8·5
Greymouth	6·75	7	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·75	7·75	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	7·75	8	8·25
Ashburton	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Timaru	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	9	9	9	9	8·33	8·33	7·67	7·67	7·5
Oamaru	11	11	11	10·5	11	10·5	11	8·5	8·5	10·5	8·5	11	8·5	9·17
Alexandra	11	11	11	10·5	11	11	11	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5
Gore [illegible]	8·75	8	8	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·5	7·5	7·6	7·6	8·6	8	8·73	8·6
Invercargill	11	10	10	10	10	10	10	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	8·94

TOBACCO, PER 1 LB.

Auckland	69	69	69·5	69·5	69·5	69·5	69·75	69·5	69·5	69·5	69·5	69·5	69	69
Wellington	78	75	74	74·5	74	72	74	73·75	74·4	73	74	74	75	72·5
Christchurch	71·25	71·25	69	70·5	70·5	73	71·5	69	72·6	71·5	70·8	71·5	71	71·5
Dunedin	75	70·5	70	66	61·25	70·75	74	73	73·6	73·2	69	71·75	72·33	71
Whangarei	70·75	70·75	70·75	72	71·25	70·75	70·75	68·25	70·75	70·75	70·75	70·75	70·75	69·25
Hamilton	68	68	68	71	69·5	71	68	68	68	68	69·33	69·33	69·33	69·33
Rotorua	69	71	73·5	73·5	73·5	70·75	69·25	71·5	71·5	71·5	71·5	71·5	71·5	71·5
Waihi	72	65·25	67·25	70·5	71·25	71·25	69·25	71	69·67	67·33	66·33	67·33	67·33	71·33
Gisborne	72	72	72	72	68	72	71·5	71·5	71·5	71·5	72	72·5	71·5	71·5
Napier	76	76	76·75	75·75	75·75	75·75	75·5	74	74·25	74	74·25	74·25	74·25	74·25
Dannevirke	72	72	72	72	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71	71
New Plymouth	66	70	72	72	72	70	72	68	70	70	72	70	70	70
Wanganui	69	69	68	69	69	72	69	69	72	72	69	72	72	74·67
Taihape	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78	78
Palmerston North	71·5	71·5	72	70·5	72	74·75	71·5	78	72	72	71·25	72	72	72
Masterton	72	74·5	76·78	75	75	75·5	74·5	76	74·4	74·4	74·5	76	77·2	76·8
Blenheim	80	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	76	79	79	79	74
Nelson	72	71·5	71·5	71	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5
Greymouth	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
Ashburton	70	71	71	71	71	67	67	67	67	71	71	71	71	70
Timaru	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	68	67	67	69	69	69
Oamaru	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72
Alexandra	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	72	71	72
Gore	73	73	72·5	73	74·75	73·75	73·25	76·25	73·2	73·5	73·2	74·25	76	73·2
Invercargill	69	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5	70·5

MILK, PER QUART.

Auckland	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Wellington	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
Christchurch	4	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Dunedin	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Whangarei	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Hamilton	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Rotorua	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	4·5
Waihi	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	5	5
Gisborne	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Napier	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Dannevirke	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
New Plymouth	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	4
Wanganui	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Taihape	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Palmerston North	3	3	3	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3
Masterton	4	4	4	3	3	3	4	3	3·5	4	4	4	4	4
Blenheim	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Nelson	5	5	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5

Appendix C—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Milk, per quart—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Ashburton	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Timaru	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Oamaru	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
Alexandra	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5
Gore	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Invercargill	4	4	3·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5
Butter, per 1 lb.														
Auckland	13	14	13·75	13·75	14·5	14·5	16	15·75	16	18	18·25	18·75	20	19
Wellington	15	14	14·5	15	14·5	15	16	15·75	16	18·16	18·83	18·67	20·67	18·83
Christchurch	14	14	14	14	14	14	15	16	16	17·67	18	18·08	19	18·86
Dunedin	15	15	14·5	14	14	14	14	15	15·33	17·71	19	19	19·86	20
Whangarei	14	14·25	14·5	14	15	15	16	16·5	16·12	17·75	18·25	19	20	19
Hamilton	15	15	15	14	15	15	16	16	16	18·5	18·83	19·17	19·83	19
Rotorua	15	15	14·75	14·5	15	15	16	16	16	18	19	19·5	20	17
Waihi	14	14·25	14	14	15	15	16	16·5	16	18	18	19	20	18·67
Gisborne	14·5	14·75	14·75	14·75	15	14·75	15	15·75	15·92	20·17	20·6	20·5	21	20·17
Napier	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	18	17·25	18	20·5	18
Dannevirke	15	14·5	14·5	14·5	14·5	14·5	13	15·5	15·5	16·25	18·75	18·75	20·5	17·75
New Plymouth	15	14·5	14	14	14	14	15	16	15	17·5	18	18·5	18·5	18·5
Wanganui	14	14	13·75	14	13·75	13·25	14·75	15	15·33	17	18·33	18·33	19·33	19
Taihape	15	15	15	15	15	15	16	16	16	18	19	19	20	19
Palmerston North	14	14	13·5	13	13	13·25	14	14·75	15	16·67	17·75	18	19	17·33
Masterton	14	14	14	14	14	14·25	15	15	14·8	16·6	18	18·8	21	18·6
Blenheim	15	15	15	15	15	14·5	15	15·5	15·5	17	19	19	20	20
Nelson	15	14·4	13·75	13	14·25	14	15	15	15	15·75	18	18·75	19	19·5
Greymouth	14·75	15	15	13·5	14	14·5	14	15	15	17·5	18·33	18·75	19	20
Ashburton	14·75	15	14	14	14	14	15	16	16	18	19	19	19	19
Timaru	15	15	14·5	14·5	14·5	14·5	15·25	15·75	15·83	18·33	19	18·67	19·67	19·33
Oamaru	14	15	14	14	14	14	14	15	18	18	19	19	20	20
Alexandra	15	15	14·5	14·25	14	14·25	14·25	15	15·5	18	20	20	20·5	21
Gore	15·25	15·5	15·75	14·75	14·5	14·5	15	15·75	16	18	19·2	20	20·6	21
Invercargill	14	14·5	14·5	14·5	15	15	15	15·5	16	18	20	19·5	21	19

Cheese, per 1 lb.

Auckland	9	9	8·75	8·75	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	10	10·25	10
Wellington	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9·25	9·5	10	10·33	10·33	10·4	10·33
Christchurch	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9·5	10	10	10·58	10·92	11·08
Dunedin	9	9	9·25	9·25	9·25	9·25	9·25	9·5	9·83	10·57	11	11	11·14	11·14
Whangarei	8	8·5	8·75	8·75	8·75	9	9	9·25	9·75	10·5	11	11·5	11·5	11·5
Hamilton	8·5	8·5	8·5	9	9	9	8·5	9	9	9·5	10	10	10	10·67
Rotorua	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9·25	10	10·5	11·25	11·5	11·5	11·75
Waihi	8	8	8	8	8·25	8	8	9	9	10	10·33	10·33	10·67	10·67
Gisborne	9	9	9	9	9	8·75	9·25	9·25	9·83	10·5	11	11·67	11·67	11·33
Napier	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9·75	10	10·33	10	10·5	10·5	10·5
Dannevirke	8	8	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·75	9	9·5	9·5	10	10·5	11·5	11·5
New Plymouth	8	8·5	8	8	8	8·5	9	10	9·5	10	10	10	10	9·5
Wanganui	8	8	8·25	8	8	8	8	8·25	9	9·67	9·67	10	10·33	10·67
Taihape	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	11	11	11	11
Palmerston North	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·75	8·5	9	9·25	9·33	9·33	9·67
Masterton	8	8	8·25	8·25	8	8·25	8·25	8·75	7·4	9·8	10	10·2	10	10·2
Blenheim	9	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	10	10	10	10·5
Nelson	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10·5	10·5	11	11·5
Greymouth	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9·75	9·75	10	10·25	10·25	10
Ashburton	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·67	8·67	10·67	10·67	10·67	11
Timaru	8·25	8	8·5	8·5	8·75	8·75	9	9·25	9·33	9·67	10·33	9·67	9·67	10·67
Oamaru	8·5	9	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	11	11	11	11
Alexandra	9·5	9·5	9·5	10	10	10	10	10	10	11	11·5	11·5	12	12
Gore	9	9	7·25	9	9	9	9	9·75	9·8	10	10·8	10·8	10·8	10·8
Invercargill	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9·5	10·5	10·5	11	11	11

Eggs, per Dozen.

Auckland	18	13	12	14	16·25	17·5	17·75	20·5	25	25·25	22·5	22·5	20·75	14·5
Wellington	20	13·5	14	15·5	15·25	18·75	19·25	21·5	26·4	27·67	27·5	21·5	20·67	17·5
Christchurch	16	12·25	11·25	11·75	12·75	15·25	15	18	22·2	25·33	23·2	21	20·33	15·33
Dunedin	17·5	13·5	13·25	13·75	14·25	15·75	18·5	20·5	24·67	26·14	25	20	19·14	14·43
Whangarei	17·25	12	10	11	13·25	15·25	15·25	16·25	21·5	23	23·5	23	21	12·75
Hamilton	14·5	13	12·5	12·5	13·5	15	15	20	23	28	23	23·33	19·67	13·33
Rotorua	20	20	14	17	17·75	19·25	22·75	22·25	28	35	30·75	26·5	21	18
Waihi	21	12	12	13·25	15	16	17·25	20	24	28·33	29·33	25	21·67	15·33
Gisborne	21·75	18·75	14	14·75	15·75	17·75	21·5	23·75	28·4	31·5	33	23·5	23	18
Napier	19·5	15	15	15	17	21	18	24	28	30	29·5	21	24	18
Dannevirke	18	12	12	13·5	14·5	17	17	20·5	24	27·5	26	21	21	15
New Plymouth	14	14	12	12	14	16	16	20	20	30	27	19·5	19·5	18
Wanganui	17·25	13·75	13	13·25	14·75	18	18	25	26	30	29·67	23·33	19·33	16
Taihape	20	15	12	15	16	18	18	22	24	30	32	30	24	16
Palmerston North	12·25	12·25	13·25	13·75	13·5	16·25	18	22·5	22·67	29	27	23·33	20	16·67
Masterton	18	12	12	12·25	14	15·25	16·75	19·75	23	26·6	27·4	19·4	18	14·8
Blenheim	18	12	10·5	12	12·5	15	14	18	22	27	24	18	15·5	15
Nelson	16	12·67	11·75	13	14	16	15·5	19·5	21·5	24	24	23	18	16

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Eggs, per dozen—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	23	17	14·25	15·75	18	20·25	23·25	25·5	31·5	35·25	35	26·25	24·75	18
Ashburton	10·75	10·75	10·75	11	11·25	12	12·75	16	16·67	20·33	23	16	16	14
Timaru	13·75	11·5	11·5	11·75	11·75	15·75	15·75	18	19·67	25	22·33	20·67	20·67	13
Oamaru	15	11	11	12	12	16	14·5	18	19·5	24	24	16	17	13·5
Alexandra	16	16	14·5	13	14	16·5	18	21·5	27	27	27	24	24	18·5
Gore	16·75	11·25	11	11	11·75	14·75	15	17	21	21·75	22·8	17	17·8	12
Invercargill	18	12	12	13	14	15	18	21	22·5	28·5	22·5	18	22·5	15
Bacon (shoulder), per 1 lb.														
Auckland	7	7	7·37	7·37	7·37	7·37	7·5	7·5	7·37	7·62	7·37	7·37	7·37	7·87
Wellington	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8·1	7·9	7·83	7·83	7·92	8·08
Christchurch	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·75	8·25	8·25	7·5	8·2	8·33	8·2	8	8	8
Dunedin	12	10·5	11·5	11	11·5	11·25	11·25	11·5	11·5	11·4	11·33	11·5	11·4	11
Whangarei	8·75	8·75	8·5	8·75	9	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·5
Hamilton	6·75	6·75	6·75	7·25	7·25	7·75	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·83	8	8·33	8·17
Rotorua	12	10·75	10·75	11	13	11	11	10	10	9·67	9·67	10	9·67	9·67
Waihi	7·5	8	8	8·25	7·5	8	8·5	8·25	8·5	8·17	8·17	8·17	8·17	8·17
Gisborne	8·75	8·75	9·25	9·25	9·25	9·5	9·25	9	8·8	9·1	9·6	8·75	9·12	8·5
Napier	8	8	7·5	8·25	8	8	8	9·25	8·17	9·25	8·17	8·12	8·17	8·17
Dannevirke	10	10·25	10·25	10·25	10·25	10·25	10·75	10·25	10·25	10·25	10·25	10·25	10·25	9·75
New Plymouth	8	7	8	8	8	7	8	6	7	6·75	7·5	6·75	6·75	6·75
Wanganui	8	8	8	8	7·75	8·25	9	9	9	9	9	9	8·33	9
Taihape	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Palmerston North	9·17	9·17	9	10	9	9·25	9	8·5	8·67	9·5	8·17	9·67	9	8·75
Masterton	6·5	8·25	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	7·75	8	7·5	7·75	8·25	8·25	8·5	8·2
Blenheim	7	9	9	9	10	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	7·5	9·5
Nelson	9	9·92	9	9	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8	8·5	8·5	8
Greymouth	10	10	10	9·75	10	10	10	10	9·87	9·87	9·83	9·75	9·87	9·87
Ashburton	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·75	12	11·83	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	10·75
Timaru	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	10	10	10	9·83	9·83	9·83	9·5	9·5	9·83
Oamaru	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Alexandra	12	12	12	11	12	11	11	11	11	11	12·5	12	12·75	12·5
Gore	12·25	12·5	12·5	12·25	12	12	11·5	12	11·9	11·75	12	12·2	12·4	12·4
Invercargill	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11·5	11·5	12	12	12	12

Bacon (Middle Cut), per 1 lb.

Auckland	12	12	11·62	11·62	11·62	11·62	11·5	11·5	11·62	11·62	11·62	11·62	11·62	11·62
Wellington	11	12·25	12·25	12·5	12·5	13·75	13	13	13	12·33	12·67	12·75	12·67	12·75
Christchurch	11	11	11	11	11	11·25	11	11	11	11·16	11·2	11·16	11·17	11·17
Dunedin	12	10·75	13·75	11·5	12	12	12	12	11·4	11·5	11·5	11·2	11·5	11·86
Whangarei	11·75	11·75	11·75	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Hamilton	10·75	10·75	11	11	11·25	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·25	11·5	11·67	11·33	11·67	11·67
Rotorua	14	13·25	13·25	13	13	12·75	12·75	13	12·5	12·5	12·25	12·5	12·5	12·5
Waihi	11	11	11	10·75	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11
Gisborne	12·25	11·75	13·5	13·5	13	13·25	13	12·25	12·83	12·83	12·6	12·8	12·83	12·83
Napier	13·75	13·75	14	14	13·5	14	14	13·75	13·75	13·67	14	13·5	13·5	13·75
Dannevirke	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
New Plymouth	11	10·5	10	10	10	10·5	10	10	10	10	9	9·5	9·5	10
Wanganui	11	11	11	11·25	11·75	11·25	11	11	11	11	11	11	11·67	11
Taihape	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Palmerston North	12·25	12·25	11·75	11·75	12·75	12·75	12·5	13·25	12·75	12·67	12·5	12·5	12·33	12·33
Masterton	12	12·5	12·5	12·25	12·5	12·25	12·5	12·75	12·4	12·2	12·2	12·2	12·4	12·25
Blenheim	14	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	12·5
Nelson	13	12·5	12·75	12·5	12·5	12·5	13	12·5	12·5	13	13	12·5	13	13
Greymouth	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·33	11·5	11·5	11·5
Ashburton	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12	12	11·5	12	12·33
Timaru	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·25	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67	11	11·67
Oamaru	12	12	12·5	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Alexandra	12	12	12·5	12	12	12	12	12	12·5	12·5	12·5	13	13	13
Gore	12·25	12·5	12·25	12·5	12	12·25	12	12·25	12	11·87	12	12·2	12·5	12·67
Invercargill	11	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	12	12	12	12

Ham, per 1 lb.

Auckland	11	11	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·5	11·25
Wellington	12	12·25	12·75	12·25	12·25	10·75	11·25	11	11	11·25	11·25	11·42	11·8	11·75
Christchurch	13	12·75	12·75	12·25	12·25	12	12	12	12	11·58	11·5	11·58	11·58	11·33
Dunedin	12	12·5	12·5	12·25	12·25	12·25	12·25	12	11·8	12	12	12	12	11·83
Whangarei	12	11·75	11·75	11·5	11·25	11·5	11·25	11·25	11·5	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·25
Hamilton	13	13	13	12·5	12·5	12·75	11·5	12	12	12	11·67	11·67	11·67	12
Rotorua	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·25	13·25	12·25	12·25	12·25	12	11·75	11·75	11·75
Waihi	12	12	12	12	11·25	11	11·75	12	11·33	11	12	11·5	12	12
Gisborne	14	14	13·75	13·75	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·75	11·92	11·92	12·3	11·92	11·92	12
Napier	12	18	19	19	19	18·25	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Dannevirke	12	12	12	12	11·75	11·75	12	11	10·5	10·5	10·5	11	11	11
New Plymouth	10	10·5	10	10	10	10	10	12	10·25	10	10	9·5	9·5	9
Wanganui	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·75	11·25	11·25	11·25	10·75	11	11	11	11	11·67	11·33
Taihape	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14	12
Palmerston North	12	12	14	12·25	11·5	11·75	12	12	12	12	11·5	12	12	12·33
Masterton	14	12·25	13·5	12·25	12·25	12·5	13	12	12	12	11·8	12	12·25	12·2
Blenheim	14	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13·5	13
Nelson	14	13	12·75	12·25	12·5	12	12·5	12·5	12	12	12	12	12·5	13

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Bacon (Ham), per 1 lb.—*continued*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	13	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·5	12·25	12·25	12	11·25	11	11	11	11	11·33
Ashburton	11·75	11·75	11·75	12	12	12	12	12	12	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67	11·67
Timaru	12	12·25	12·25	12·25	11·75	11·25	11·25	11·25	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33	11·33
Oamaru	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Alexandra	13	13	13	12	13	12	12·5	13	13	13	13	13	13	13
Gore	12·75	12·5	12·5	12·5	12·5	12	12·5	12·5	12·2	12·1	12	12·2	12·25	12·4
Invercargill	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12	12
Beef (Sirloin), per 1 lb.														
Auckland	7	7	7	7·5	7·5	7	7	7	7	7	6·5	6·67	6·67	7·83
Wellington	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	8	8	7·75	8	8	7·75	8	7·75	7·75	7·75
Christchurch	6·75	6·75	7	7	7	7	7	8	6·9	6·58	6·58	6·58	6·58	7·5
Dunedin	6·5	6·75	7·25	5·5	7·5	7·5	7·25	7·4	7·3	7·2	7·2	7·20	6·60	7
Whangarei	6·5	6·5	6·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·75
Hamilton	7	7	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Rotorua	7·33	7·33	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Waihi	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6·5
Napier	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Dannevirke	6	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·5	7	7	7	8
New Plymouth	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wanganui	6	5	5	5	5·75	5·75	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·5	7	7	7	7·25
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	8
Palmerston North	6	6	6	4·75	7	7	7	7	7	7·5	7·33	7·33	7·33	8
Masterton	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·75	6·5	6·5	6·75	7·17	7·17	7·17	7·17	8
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	7·33	7·33	7	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7	7	7	7	7
Greymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7·5	8	8
Ashburton	6·75	6·75	7·5	7·5	6·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Timaru	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	6·67	6·67	8
Oamaru	7	7	7·5	8	8	8·25	8·5	8·5	8	8·5	8	8	8·5	8
Alexandra	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Invercargill	6	6·5	6·5	6	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·33	7·33	7·17	7·17	7·17	7·33

BEEF (BRISKET), PER 1 LB.

Auckland	3·5	3·5	3·5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3·5	3·67	3·67	4·33
Wellington	3·5	3·5	3·75	3·75	4	4	4·5	4·25	4·33	4	4	4	4	4·25
Christchurch	4	4	4	4·25	4·5	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·3	3·92	4	3·83	3·83	4·92
Dunedin	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·75	4·5	4·6	4·5	4·4	4·4	4·2	4·3
Whangarei	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4·75
Hamilton	3·5	3·5	3·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rotorua	4	4	4	4	4	4·25	4·75	4·67	4	4	4	4	4·33	4·67
Waihi	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
Gisborne	5	5	5	5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5·5
Napier	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Dannevirke	4	4·25	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·75
New Plymouth	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wanganui	4·25	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	5	5	4·75	5
Taihape	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	5	5	6·5
Palmerston North	3·67	3·67	4	4·75	4·25	5	4·25	5	4·5	5·5	5·17	5·17	4·83	6·17
Masterton	4·25	4·25	4·5	5	4	4·5	4	4	4·25	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·33
Blenheim	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·75
Nelson	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	5·5	5·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	5·5
Greymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Ashburton	5	5	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Timaru	4	4	4·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	3·67	4	5
Oamaru	4·5	4·5	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Alexandra	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gore	4·75	4·75	4·75	5·25	5	5·25	5	5	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·5
Invercargill	4	4·25	4·75	4·5	4·75	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·33	5·17	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33

BEEF (PRIME RIBS), PER 1 LB.

Auckland	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·75	5·83	5·83	7
Wellington	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	6·25	6·25	6	6	6·17	6·12	6·17	6·12	6·12	6·12
Christchurch	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·25	6·5	6	6·3	5·92	5·83	5·83	5·83	6·92
Dunedin	5·5	5·75	6·25	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·4	6·3	6·2	6·2	6·1	5·7	6
Whangarei	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·25
Hamilton	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Rotorua	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Waihi	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	5	6
Gisborne	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	6	5·5
Napier	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Dannevirke	5·5	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Wanganui	5·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5·5	6	6	6	6·25
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Palmerston North	5	5	5	6·25	6	6	6	6	6	5·83	6·33	6·33	6·33	7
Masterton	5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	6	6	6	6	6·83
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	7	7	6·25	6·25	6	6·5	7	7	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6

APPENDIX C.—MONTHLY RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
BEEF (PRIME RIBS) PER 1 LB.														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Ashburton	6	6	6·25	6·5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Timaru	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	5·67	5·67	7
Oamaru	6·5	6·5	7	7	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Alexandra	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Invercargill	6	5·75	6·25	5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17
BEEF (RUMP STEAK), PER 1 LB.														
Auckland	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	10·5	10·67	10·67	11·67
Wellington	9·25	9·25	9·25	9·25	10	10	9·75	10	10	9·75	10	9·75	9·75	9·75
Christchurch	8·25	8·25	8·5	9·25	9·25	9	9·25	10	9	8·67	8·67	8·67	8·67	9·5
Dunedin	8·25	8·5	9·25	9·25	9·5	9·5	9·75	9·5	9·6	9·6	9·2	9	8·8	9·2
Whangarei	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10·25
Hamilton	8·5	8·5	8·5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Rotorua	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	11	11	11	9·33	11	11	11
Waihi	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	10
Gisborne	8	8	8	8	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	9	9·5
Napier	7·5	7·5	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Dannevirke	7	7·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
New Plymouth	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Wanganui	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8·5	8·5	9·5
Taihape	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
Palmerston North	7·33	7·33	7·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·33	7·5	9·33	9	9	10
Masterton	7·25	7·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·5	8·25	8·25	8·5	8	8	8	8	9·67
Blenheim	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Nelson	8	8	7·5	7·5	8	8	8	8	8	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Greymouth	9	9	9	10	10	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Ashburton	9·25	9·25	9·25	10	9·75	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Timaru	8·75	8·75	8·5	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	8·33	8·67	9·67
Oamaru	8	8	8·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9·5	9	9	9	9
Alexandra	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Gore	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Invercargill	9	9	9·5	8	9·75	9·75	9·75	9·75	9·67	9·67	9·33	8·67	9·33	9·33

Beef (Top Side), per 1 lb.

Auckland	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·25	6·33	6·33	7·33
Wellington	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	5·92	5·94	6	5·94	5·87	5·87
Christchurch	5·25	5·25	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6·2	5·75	5·58	5·75	5·75	6·83
Dunedin	6·5	6·5	7·25	7·25	8·5	7	7	7	7·1	7·1	6·7	6·90	6·90	6·9
Whangarei	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·25
Hamilton	5·5	5·5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Rotorua	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	7·67	6	6	6
Waihi	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	5·5	5·5	5·5	7	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	5·5	5·5	6
Napier	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	7·5
New Plymouth	6	6	6·5	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Wanganui	5·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6·5
Taihape	6	6	6	6	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Palmerston North	4·83	4·83	5	5·75	6	6	6	6	5·83	6·67	6	6	6	6·83
Masterton	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33	7
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	6·33	6·33	6·5	6·25	6	6	7	7	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6
Greymouth	7	7	7	8	8	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	8	7	7·5	7·5
Ashburton	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·75	7·25	7·67	7·67	7·67	7·67	8	8
Timaru	6	6	6	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	6·33	6·67	7·33
Oamaru	6·5	6·5	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7·5
Alexandra	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	7	7	7	7·75	8	7·75	8	8	7·83	7·83	7·83	8	8	7·83
Invercargill	6	6·25	6	5	7	7	7·25	7	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	7	6·67

Beef (Stewing-steak), per 1 lb.

Auckland	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	6·67
Wellington	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Christchurch	5·75	5·75	5·75	6·5	6·25	6·25	6·25	6	5·8	5·58	5·58	5·75	5·75	6·5
Dunedin	5·75	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·4	6·4	6	6	6	6·2
Whangarei	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6·5	6·5	6·25
Hamilton	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Rotorua	4	4	5·25	5·5	5·75	5·25	5·25	6	6	6	6	7	7	7·33
Waihi	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6
Gisborne	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6·5
Napier	5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Dannevirke	4	4·25	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	6
New Plymouth	6	6	5	5	6·5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	7	7
Wanganui	5·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5.5	5	5	5	5·5	5	6·5
Taihape	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Palmerston North	5	4	5	5·75	5·75	6	5·25	5·75	5·33	5·83	5·67	5·67	5·67	7·33
Masterton	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	6·5	6	6	6	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33	7
Blenheim	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	5·67	5·67	5·75	5·75	5·5	5·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6	6	6	5·5

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Beef (Stewing-steak) per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	6	6	6	7·5	7·25	6·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6
Ashburton	6	6	7	7	6·25	7	6·75	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Timaru	5·75	5·75	5·5	7·25	6·75	7·25	7·25	6·75	6·67	6·67	6	5·33	5·33	6
Oamaru	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	7	7	8	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	6·5	7·5	7·5
Alexandra	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gore	6·25	6·25	6·25	7	7·25	7	7·25	7·25	7·33	7·33	7	7	7	7·33
Invercargill	6	6	6·5	5	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·67	6·67	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33
Beef (Corned Round), per 1 lb.														
Auckland	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6·17	6·17	7·5
Wellington	5·5	5·5	5·75	5·75	6·25	6·25	6·25	6	6·5	6·12	6·5	6·37	6·37	6·12
Christchurch	5·75	5·75	6·5	5·75	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6·5	6·25	6·17	6·17	6·17	7·42
Dunedin	6·25	6·5	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·75	7	7·1	7	7	6·9	6·6	7
Whangarei	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·25
Hamilton	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Rotorua	6	6	5·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Waihi	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6·25
Gisborne	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5·5
Napier	5	5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Dannevirke	5·5	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6	6	7
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·5	7	7	7
Wanganui	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·75	5·75	5·5	6·25
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5
Palmerston North	5	5	5	5·25	6	6	6	6	6	5·5	6·33	6·33	6·33	7
Masterton	5·75	5·75	6·25	5·75	6	6	6	6	6·25	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	7
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	6	6	6·25	6·25	6	6·5	7	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6
Greymouth	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Ashburton	6·75	6·75	6·75	7	6·75	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Timaru	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	6·33	6·67	8
Oamaru	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Alexandra	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Invercargill	6	6	7	5·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7

Beef (Corned Roll), per 1 lb.

Auckland	5	5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·33	5·33	6·5
Wellington	4·75	4·75	5	4·75	5·25	5·25	5·25	4·75	5·17	5·12	5·17	5·25	5·25	5·25
Christchurch	5·75	5·75	5·5	6	5·75	5·75	6·25	5·42	6	5·58	5·58	5·42	5·58	6·75
Dunedin	5·25	5·75	6·25	6·5	6·25	6·25	6	6·25	6·2	6	6	6	5·7	6
Whangarei	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25	6	7·25
Hamilton	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Rotorua	6	6	5·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Waihi	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Gisborne	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5·5
Napier	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke	5·5	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6	6	6·5
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Wanganui	4·75	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·75	4·75	5	5·25	5	5	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5
Taihape	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	5	5	5	6
Palmerston North	5	5	5	5·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·33	6·33	6·33	7
Masterton	4·75	4·75	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33	6·17
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	6	6	6	6·25	6	6·5	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6
Greymouth	7	7	7	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Ashburton	6·75	6·75	6·75	7	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Timaru	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7·25	7	6·67	6·67	5·67	5·67	7
Oamaru	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	7
Alexandra	5	5	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gore	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Invercargill	5	5	6·25	4·5	6	6	6	6	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17

Beef (Corned Brisket), per 1 lb.

Auckland	3·5	3·5	3·5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3·5	3·67	3·67	4·5
Wellington	4	4	4	4	4	4	4·5	4·25	4·33	4	4·67	4·67	4·62	4·62
Christchurch	6	6	5·5	6	6	5·75	6	4·25	5·95	5·46	5·5	5·5	5·5	6·58
Dunedin	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·75	4·5	5·2	4·5	4·4	4·40	4·2	4·3
Whangarei	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4·75
Hamilton	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Rotorua	4·33	4·33	4	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·67	4·67	4·67	4·67	4·67	5
Waihi	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
Gisborne	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	5·5	5·5	4·5	4·5	5
Napier	4·25	4·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Dannevirke	4	4·25	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·25
New Plymouth	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Wanganui	4·75	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·75	4·75	4·75	5	4·75	4·75	5·25	5·25	5·5	5·25
Taihape	5	5	6	6	5	5	5	5·5	6	5·5	6	6	6	6·5
Palmerston North	5	5	5	5·75	5·75	6	5·75	5·75	5·67	5·5	6	6	6	6·5
Masterton	4·25	4·25	4·75	4·75	4·5	4·75	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5·67
Blenheim	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6
Nelson	5·67	5·67	5·5	5·5	6	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Beef (Corned Brisket), per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Ashburton	5	5	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Timaru	5·25	5·25	5	7	7	7	6·75	6·75	6·67	6	6	4·83	4·5	6
Oamaru	5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·75	5	5	5	6	5	5·5	6	5
Alexandra	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gore	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·25	5	5·5	5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·67
Invercargill	4	4	4·75	4·5	5	5	5	5	5·17	5·17	5·33	5·33	5·33	5·33
Mutton (Leg), per 1 lb.														
Auckland	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5
Wellington	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	6·25	6·25	6	6	5·83	5·87	5·83	5·87	5·87	5·87
Christchurch	5·75	5·75	6	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·5	6	6·2	5·5	5·17	5·33	5·33	6·42
Dunedin	5·25	5·25	6	6	6	6	6	5·75	5·8	5·7	5·5	5·4	5·3	5·65
Whangarei	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7	7	7	7	7	7·25
Hamilton	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Rotorua	8	8	6·25	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Waihi	7	7	7	7	7	7	6·25	6·25	6·25	7	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6
Napier	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke	5·5	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
New Plymouth	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wanganui	5·75	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6·5
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Palmerston North	5·33	5·33	5·25	6·5	6·25	6	6	6·25	6·17	6·33	6·67	6·33	6·33	7·33
Masterton	6	6	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·5	6·25	6·25	6·5	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33	7·17
Blenheim	5	5	5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5	5	5	5·25	5·25
Nelson	5·67	5·67	5·5	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Greymouth	8	8	8	8	8	7·5	8	8	8	8	8	7·5	7·5	8
Ashburton	5·5	5·5	6	6	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Timaru	5·75	5·75	5·5	6·5	6·5	7	7	7	6·5	5·83	5·5	4·83	5·17	5·83
Oamaru	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Alexandra	5·5	5·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6	6·5
Gore	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	7·17	7·17	7·17	6·83	6·83	6·83
Invercargill	6	6	7	5·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	6·83	6·83	6·83	6·83

Mutton (Shoulder), per 1 lb.

Auckland	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·33	5·33	5·67
Wellington	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	5·25	5·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Christchurch	4·5	4·5	4·75	5	5	5	5	5	4·9	4·42	4·08	4·25	4·25	5·25
Dunedin	4·25	4·25	4·75	4·5	4·75	4·75	4·8	4·75	4·8	4·7	4·6	4·2	4·4	4·8
Whangarei	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25
Hamilton	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Rotorua	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6
Waihi	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6
Gisborne	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	4·5	4·5	4·75
Napier	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Dannevirke	4·5	4·75	5	5	5	5	5	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Wanganui	4·5	4	4	4	4·5	4·5	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	5	5	5	5·75
Taihape	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Palmerston North	4·17	4·17	4	4·75	4·5	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·67	4·67	5·17	5·17	5·17	5·67
Masterton	4·25	4·25	5·25	5·25	5	5·25	5	5	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6
Blenheim	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·25	4·5	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	5
Nelson	5	5	5	5	5·5	5	5	5	5	4·75	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5
Greymouth	7	7	7	7	7·5	6·5	7	7	7	6	7	7	7	7
Ashburton	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Timaru	4·75	4·75	4·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	4·83	4·5	4·33	4·5	4·83
Oamaru	4·5	4·5	4·75	5·25	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	4·75
Alexandra	5·5	5·5	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6	4·5	5
Gore	5·75	5·75	5·75	6	6·25	6	6·25	6·25	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·17	6·17	6
Invercargill	5	5	6	4	6	6	6	6	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17

Mutton (Loin), per 1 lb.

Auckland	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6·17	6·17	6·33
Wellington	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	6·25	6·25	6	6	5·83	5·87	5·83	5·87	5·87	5·87
Christchurch	4·75	4·75	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·25	5·5	6	5·4	5	4·83	4·92	5	5·75
Dunedin	5	5	6·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·6	5·4	5·5	5·3	5·1	5·4
Whangarei	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·25
Hamilton	5·5	5·5	5·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Rotorua	6·67	6·67	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Waihi	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5
Napier	5	5	6	6	6	5	6	5	6	5	5	5	5	5
Dannevirke	5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Wanganui	5·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5	6
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	8
Palmerston North	5	5	5	5·75	6	5·75	6	6	5·83	5·83	6·33	6·33	6·33	7
Masterton	6	6	6	6·25	6	6·25	6	6	6·25	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·17	6·83
Blenheim	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	5·75
Nelson	5·33	5·33	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued*.

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Mutton (Loin), per 1 lb.—*continued*.														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	7	7·5	7·5	7·5
Ashburton	5	5	5·5	5·5	5	5·5	6	6	5·83	5·83	5·83	5·83	6	6
Timaru	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·33	5·33	4·67	5	5·83
Oamaru	5·25	5·25	5·75	5·75	6	6	6	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·5	6	5·5	5·75
Alexandra	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gore	6	6	6	6·25	6·75	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67
Invercargill	5	5·25	6	5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6	6·17	6·17
Mutton (Neck), per 1 lb.														
Auckland	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·83
Wellington	3·75	3·75	4	4	4·25	4·25	4	4	3·83	4	3·83	4	4	4
Christchurch	3·5	3·5	4	4·75	4	4	4	4	3·8	3·5	3·17	3·17	3·25	4·08
Dunedin	4	4	4·75	4·5	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·8	4·5	4·5	4·4	4·3	4·6
Whangarei	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	7·25
Hamilton	4·5	4·5	4·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Rotorua	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6
Waihi	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5
Gisborne	3·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	3·5	4	3·5	3·5	3·75	3·25	3·25	3·75
Napier	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	5
Dannevirke	4	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·75	6
New Plymouth	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wanganui	4·25	4	4	4	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·75	4·5	4·75	5
Taihape	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	5
Palmerston North	4	4	4	5	5	4·25	5	4·5	4·67	4·83	5·17	5·17	5	5·83
Masterton	5	5	4·25	4·25	4	4·25	4	4	4·25	4·17	4·17	4·17	4·17	5·33
Blenheim	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·25
Nelson	4·17	4·17	4·5	4·25	4	4·25	4·75	4·75	5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4·5	4
Greymouth	5·5	6	5·5	6·5	6	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Ashburton	3·75	3·75	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Timaru	3·5	3·5	3·25	4·25	4·25	4	4	4·25	4·33	3·67	3·67	2·83	2·83	3·67
Oamaru	4·25	4·25	4·75	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·25	5	5·25	5	5	5	5	5
Alexandra	5	5	5·5	5·5	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5	5	4·5	5	5
Gore	5·25	5·25	5·25	5·75	6	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	5·83	5·83	6
Invercargill	4	4·25	5	4	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·75	5·67	5·67	5·67	5·67	5·67	5·67

Mutton Chops, per 1 lb.

Auckland	8	8	8	8	8	7·75	8	7·75	7·5	7·5	7·25	7·33	7·33	7·33
Wellington	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·75	7	7	6·75	7	7	6·75	7	6·67	6·75	6·87
Christchurch	5·5	5·5	5·75	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·5	7	6·2	5·5	5·17	5·33	5·33	6·33
Dunedin	5	5·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·6	5·6	5·3	5·5	5·65
Whangarei	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	7	6·5	7	6·5	6·5	6·75	6·75	7
Hamilton	6·5	6·5	6·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Rotorua	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8
Waihi	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6·25	6·25	7	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6·25
Napier	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Dannevirke	6	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	6·5	7	7	7	7	8 ¼
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wanganui	6·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	7
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	8
Palmerston North	5·33	5·33	5·25	6·25	6·75	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·33	6·33	7·33	7·33	7·33	8
Masterton	6	6	6·5	7·25	6·25	6·5	6·25	6·25	6·5	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·33	6·67
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5
Greymouth	7·75	7·75	7·75	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Ashburton	5·75	5·75	7	7	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Timaru	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	6·33	6	5·33	5·33	6·33
Oamaru	6	6	6·25	7	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6
Alexandra	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gore	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Invercargill	6	6	7	6	7	6·75	7	6·75	7	7	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·33

Pork (Leg), per 1 lb.

Auckland	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·5	7·33	7·33	8·33
Wellington	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·5	8·25	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Christchurch	7·75	7·75	8·5	8·25	8·25	8·5	8·5	8	8	7·58	7·42	7·42	7·58	8·25
Dunedin	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8	8·1	7·9	7·9	7·8	7·8	8
Whangarei	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8·25
Hamilton	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Rotorua	5	5	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Waihi	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7·5
Napier	8·5	8·5	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Dannevirke	8	8	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
New Plymouth	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wanganui	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
Taihape	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Palmerston North	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·33	7·33	7·33	7·67
Masterton	4	4	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·5	7·25	7·25	7·5	7·33	7·33	7·33	7·67	8·33
Blenheim	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Nelson	7·67	7·67	7·5	7·5	6	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914. July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1915. Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Pork (leg), per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Ashburton	7·75	7·75	7·75	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Timaru	8	8	7·75	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7·83
Oamaru	7·5	7·5	8	7·5	7	8	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	8	7·5	8	8
Alexandra	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Invercargill	8	7·75	8	8	8	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·33	8·33	8·17	8·17	8·17	8·33
Pork (loin), per 1 lb.														
Auckland	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
Wellington	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·5	8·5	8·6	8·75	8·4	8·6	8·6
Christchurch	7·75	7·75	8·5	8·5	8·75	8·75	9	8·5	8·5	7·58	7·58	7·71	7·71	8·54
Dunedin	8·5	8·25	8·25	8·5	8·5	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·2	8·1	8·1	8	8	8·2
Whangarei	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8·25
Hamilton	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Rotorua	7	7	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Waihi	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7·5
Napier	8	8	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Dannevirke	6	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	9·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wanganui	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
Taihape	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Palmerston North	7·67	7·67	7·5	8	7·75	8	8	8	8	8	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·67
Masterton	6·5	6·5	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·5	7·25	7·25	7·5	7·67	7·67	7·67	8	8·33
Blenheim	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Nelson	7·33	7·33	7·5	7·25	6·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Greymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Ashburton	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Timaru	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Oamaru	7·5	7·5	8	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	8	7·5	8	8
Alexandra	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Invercargill	8	7·75	8	8	8	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·33	8·33	8·17	8·17	8·17	8·36

Pork (Belly), per 1 lb.

Auckland	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	
Wellington	8·5	8·5	8·75	8·5	8·75	8·75	8·5	8·25	8·25	8·4	8·25	8·4	8·4	8·
Christchurch	8	8	8·75	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·75	8·25	8·5	7·75	7·67	7·75	7·75	8·42
Dunedin	8·25	8	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8	8·25	8·2	8	8	8	8	8·2
Whangarei	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8·25
Hamilton	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Rotorua	7·5	7·5	7	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Waihi	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gisborne	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	6·5	6·5	7
Napier	7·5	7·5	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Dannevirke	8	8	8	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	9·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wanganui	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
Taihape	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Palmerston North	7·67	7·67	7·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·67
Masterton	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·25	7·5	7·25	7·25	7·5	7·67	7·67	7·67	8	8·33
Blenheim	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Nelson	7·33	7·33	7·25	7·25	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8
Greymouth	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8·5	8·5
Ashburton	7·75	7·75	7·75	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Timaru	7·75	7·75	7·5	7·25	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·67	7·67	7·67	7·67	7·67	8
Oamaru	6·5	6·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	8	7·5	8	8
Alexandra	7	7	7	7	7	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Invercargill	7	7	7·5	8	7·25	7·75	7·75	8	7·67	7·67	8·33	7·33	7·33	7·33

Pork Chops, per 1 lb.

Auckland	10	10	10	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	8·5	8·67	8·67	9·67
Wellington	9·5	9·5	9·75	9·5	9·75	9·75	9·25	9·25	9·25	9·2	9·25	9·25	9·2	9·2
Christchurch	8·25	8·25	9·25	8·5	9·25	9·25	9·25	9·25	8·8	8·33	8·5	8·5	8·5	9·33
Dunedin	8·75	8·25	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·75	8·5	8·6	8·4	8·6	8·6	8·6	8·8
Whangarei	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8·25
Hamilton	8	8	8	9	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Rotorua	7·5	7·5	7·25	8	8	8	8	7·75	8	8	8	8	8	8
Waihi	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	8	7·5	7·5	8	8	7·5	8	8
Gisborne	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	9	9	9	9	8	8	8·5
Napier	8·5	8·5	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Dannevirke	7	7·5	8	8	7·5	7·5	7	7·5	8	8	8	8	8	7·5
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wanganui	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	9·5
Taihape	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Palmerston North	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·67
Masterton	7·25	7·25	7·75	7·75	7·75	8	7·75	8	8	8	8	8	8·33	8·67
Blenheim	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5
Nelson	8	8	8	8	7·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7

Appendix C.—Monthly Retail Prices of Commodities—*continued.*

Towns.	1914. July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	1915. Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
Pork Chops per 1 lb.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	8·5	9	9	9	9	9	9
Ashburton	8	8	8	9	8·25	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Timaru	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Oamaru	8	8	8	8·5	8	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8·5	8
Alexandra	7	7	7	7	7	9	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	8·75	8·75	8·25	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Invercargill	8	8	8·5	8	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·25	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·33	8·67
Sausages (Pork), per 1 lb.														
Auckland	7	7	7	7·5	7·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Wellington	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7·6
Christchurch	7	7	6·25	6·5	6·75	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·2	6·2	6·2	6·2	6·4
Dunedin	5·75	5·25	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·75	5·5	5·75	5·6	5·6	5·6	5·6	5·6
Whangarei	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8
Hamilton	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Rotorua	7·5	7·5	7·25	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wailii	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	8	8	8	8	8
Gisborne	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7·5	7	7	7	7	7	6·5	6·5	7
Napier	9·5	9·5	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Dannevirke	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
New Plymouth	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Wanganui	8·5	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	9
Taihape	9	9	9	9	9	9	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	10
Palmerston North	6	6	6	6	6·75	6	6·75	6·75	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·67	6·33	7·33
Masterton	7·25	7·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Blenheim	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Nelson	6·67	6·67	7	7·25	6	6·5	6	6	7	6·5	7	7	7	6
Greymouth	8	8	8	9	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Ashburton	6·75	6·75	6·75	7	6·75	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Timaru	6	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·33	7·33	8
Oamaru	8	8	8	7·5	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	8	8·5
Alexandra	7	7	7	7	7	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Gore	8	8	8	8	8·25	8	8·25	8·25	8	8	8	8	8	8
Invercargill	7	6·75	6·5	8	7·25	7·25	7	7	7·33	7·67	7·67	7·67	8	7·67

SAUSAGES (BEEF), PER 1 LB.

Auckland	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5·5	5·67	5·67	5·67
Wellington	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Christchurch	4	4	4	4	3·75	3·75	4	5	3·8	3·83	3·83	3·83	3·83	3·83
Dunedin	4	4·25	4·25	4·25	4·5	4·25	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Whangarei	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·75
Hamilton	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Rotorua	4·25	5	4·25	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6
Waihi	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	5	5	5	5	5	6	6	6	6	6
Gisborne	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5·5	5·5	5	5	5·5
Napier	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6
New Plymouth	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
Wanganui	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	6
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Palmerston North	4·33	4·33	4·25	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·75	4·67	4·67	5·33	5·33	5·33	6
Masterton	8	8	4·5	4·75	4·75	5	4·75	4·75	4·5	4·67	4·67	4·67	4·67	5·33
Blenheim	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
Nelson	5·33	5·33	5·5	5·5	5·5	5·5	6	6	6	5	6	6	6	5·5
Greymouth	6	6	6	7	6·5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Ashburton	5	5	6	6	5·25	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Timaru	4·75	4·75	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4·33	4·33	5
Oamaru	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Alexandra	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gore	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·33	6·33	6·33
Invercargill	6	6	6·5	5	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·33	6·33	7	6·33	6·33	6·33

TRIPE, PER 1 LB.

Auckland	7	7	7	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	6·5	6·67	6·67	6·67
Wellington	5·5	5·5	5·5	8·75	6	6	6	5·75	5·75	5·8	5·5	5·6	5·6	5·6
Christchurch	6	6	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	6·25	5·75	6·2	6	6	6	6	6·17
Dunedin	6·5	6·5	6·75	6·75	6·75	6·75	7	6·75	6·8	6·8	6·8	6·6	6·6	6·6
Whangarei	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5	6·25
Hamilton	6·5	6·5	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Rotorua	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Waihi	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gisborne	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Napier	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Dannevirke	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
New Plymouth	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Wanganui	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6·5
Taihape	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Palmerston North	5·67	5·67	5·75	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7
Masterton	5·75	5·75	5·5	5·75	5·75	6	5·75	5·75	5·5	6	6	6	6	6
Blenheim	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5
Nelson	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	7	6	6	6	6	6

APPENDIX C.—MONTHLY RETAIL PRICES OF COMMODITIES—*continued.*

Towns.	1914.						1915.							
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.
TRIPE, PER 1 LB.—*continued.*														
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Greymouth	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	6·5	6·5	6·5	6	7	6·5	6·5	6·5
Ashburton	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7
Timaru	6	6	6	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Oamaru	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Alexandra	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
Gore	6·75	6·75	6·5	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7·33	7·33	7·33
Invercargill	6	6	7	6	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·75	7·67	7·67	8·33	7·67	7·67	7·67

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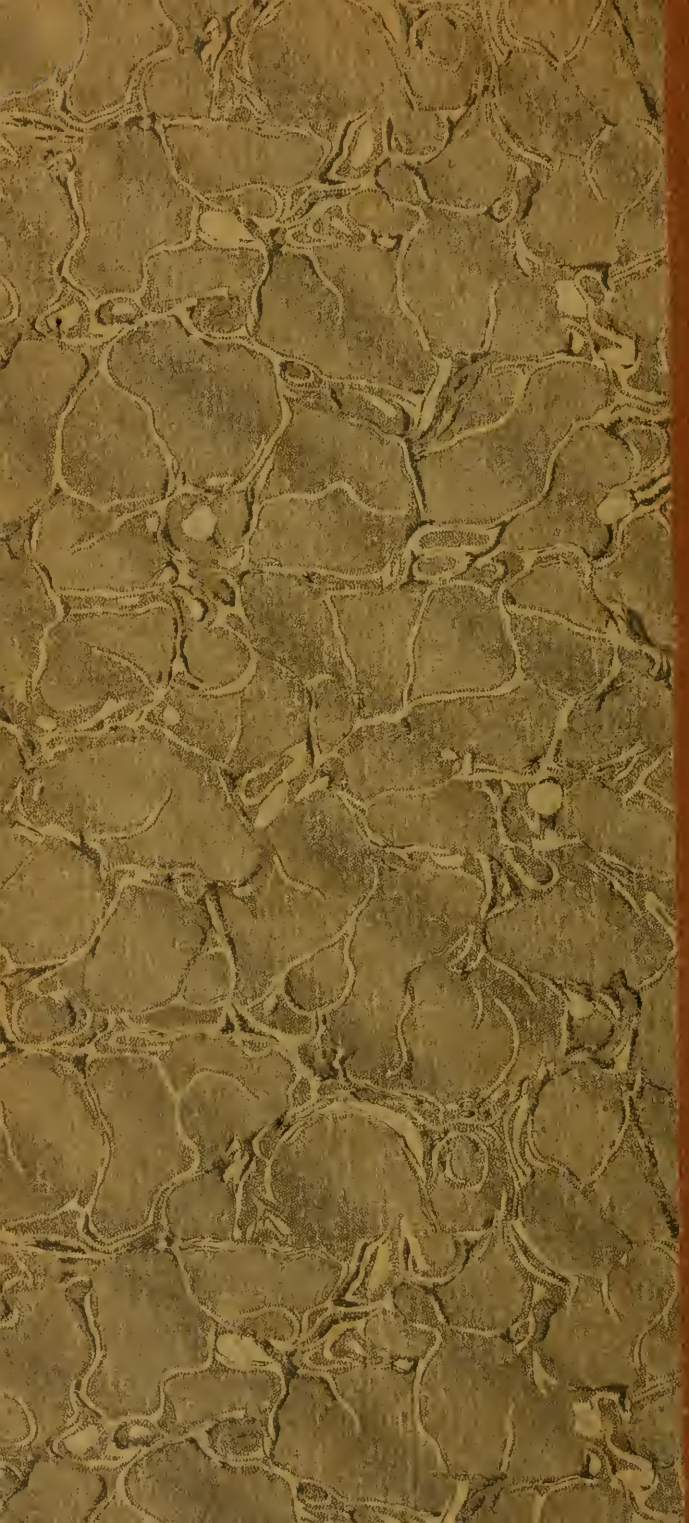
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